ROCKS AND MINERALS

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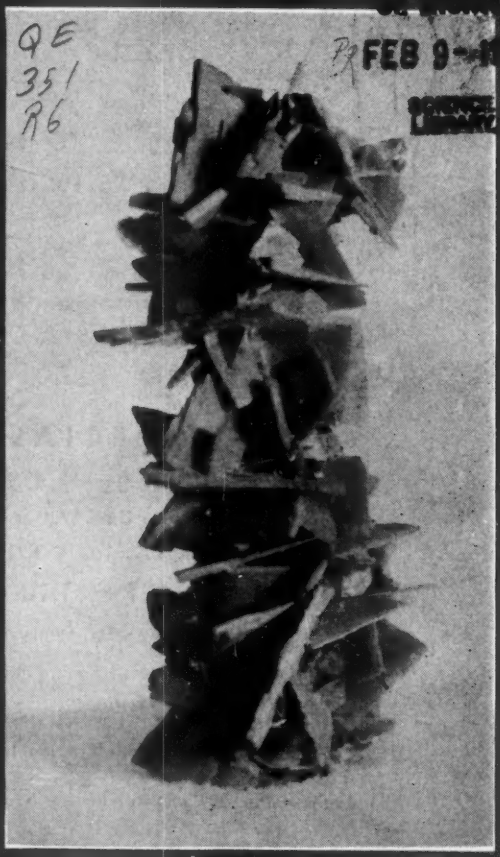

Mineralogy
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Feature:
Glove Mine, Santa Cruz Co., Ariz.
M. J. Elsing Collection
(See page 65)

60c

January-February, 1959
Whole Number 268

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ROCKS & MINERALS

PETER ZODAC, Editor and Publisher

America's Oldest and Most Versatile Magazine for the Mineralogist, Geologist, Lapidary.

Published Bi-Monthly

OFFICIAL JOURNAL

ROCKS & MINERALS ASSOCIATION

Official magazine of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies

WHOLE NO. 268 VOL. 34, Nos. 1-2 JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1959

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CHIPS FROM THE QUARRY

ROCKS AND MINERALS
Official Journal of the Eastern Federation

With this issue, ROCKS AND MINERALS becomes the official journal of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies. We welcome the opportunity to serve the Federation and we hope and trust the arrangement will be of mutual benefit to the Federation, to all clubs and societies in the Federation, and to ROCKS AND MINERALS.

ALWAYS ENCLOSE A LABEL

When sending specimens by mail to collectors, ALWAYS – ALWAYS – ALWAYS enclose a label with each, giving locality and if known, the mineral's name. At least one of the labels should carry your name and address.

R&M frequently receives shipments of minerals with which not a single label is enclosed, not even the sender's name and address. And if the sender's name and address does appear on the package, they often are so badly defaced by the wear and tear of the package as to make them unrecognizable—even the postmark at times is so poorly impressed as to be useless.

Here we have a boxful of minerals but not a single clue as to their locality or who sent them or from where. We can identify the minerals to be sure but to a mineral collector a mineral with no locality is a piece of junk.

Why are many people so timid about enclosing labels with specimens? At least insert a card bearing your name and address so that the receiver of the minerals will know who sent them—the post office wants you to do this.

A word of advice to beginners. It is downright discourteous to a collector to send him a mineral specimen without a label. It were better if no specimen was sent at all!

Peter Zodac

COMING EVENTS

Feb. 27, 28, March 1, 1959—Phoenix Gem and Mineral Show. Theme of Show is jade. Featured will be Oriental jade, Loughlin collection of Wyoming jade, and part of the fabulous Walker collection from Minneapolis, Minn.

April 24, 25, 26, 1959—Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Annual Convention and Show. Host: Wichita Gem and Mineral Society, Walter Broderson, General Chairman, 657 McLean Blvd., N.W., Wichita 12, Kans.

June 18-21, 1959—Mid-West Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies, Clark County Fair Grounds, Springfield, Ohio (Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club, Inc., of Fairborn, Ohio—host). Howard Core, Publicity, Box 442, West Liberty, Ohio.

June 19-24, 1959—Wyoming Mineral and Gem Society Show and Convention. Host—Riverton Mineral and Gem Society, Fremont County Fair Building, Riverton, Wyo., Mrs. Adam Wensky, Corr. Secretary, 1017 E. Loebe, Riverton, Wyo.

June 26, 27, 28, 1959—20th Annual Convention and Gem & Mineral Fiesta of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. Host—Gem and Mineral Society of San Mateo County, Inc. Fiesta Fairgrounds, San Mateo, Calif. Frank J. Brady, Publicity Chairman, 982 Blandford Blvd., Redwood City, Calif.

Sept. 5, 6, 7, 1959—National Gem Fair, Portland, Ore. Host—Oregon Agate and Mineral Society, Portland, Ore. Albert J. Keen, Dealer Chairman, 2715 N.E. 41st Ave., Portland 12, Ore.

(*Continued on page* 92)

Minerals at Thomaston Dam, Conn.

By PETER ZODAC

On Sunday October 19, 1958, the Mineralogical Club of Hartford, Conn., held a field trip to the trap rock quarry at Plainville, Conn. I was there along with Don Presher (Pres. of the R&MA). It was a most enjoyable trip; we collected many specimens and had the additional pleasure of meeting some members of the Hartford Club among whom were Mr. & Mrs. L. E. Anderson and Luther Hadsell. Soon we began to hear about a new locality nearby, a railroad cut at Thomaston Dam that was especially noted for fluorite. We were more interested in a closer locality, the old copper mine near Bristol, and the Andersons graciously offered to guide us there and to show us spots where they had obtained good minerals.

We spent about an hour at the copper mine; Mr. Hadsell had joined us soon after our arrival and between these 3 collectors we accumulated quite an assortment of interesting minerals. Then Mr. Hadsell offered to guide us to the Thomaston Dam and we accepted (the Andersons leaving for home). In order to save time, Mr. Hadsell took us over the shortest route (all back roads) and soon we reached the dam late in the day, just as dusk was falling. This was a huge, long and high rock dam that was still under construction. Mr. Hadsell told us that this was to be a dry dam, water to be sent to it during high floods so as to protect Thomaston and other towns. The dam is across a wide valley through which runs a railroad; the railroad is to be relocated. Part of the relocation is through a huge rock cut which starts near the west end of the dam and it is in this rock cut that fluorite and other minerals occur.

We soon reached the cut and it was quite an inspiring site—50' wide, vertical walls about 75' high and extended in this way for at least 1500 feet (we could not go further as it was partially blocked by huge rock masses that had been blasted down—and it was getting dark so we had to rush our collecting). The cut with its vertical walls thru pegmatite and mica schist was not straight but on a slight curve while the floor was so wet and muddy that it was not pleasant to walk but walk we did. A number of collectors from the New Haven Mineral Club were here but we had no time to get acquainted—must collect a few minerals first and by the time we got through they were all gone.

Due to the wet and muddy floor, especially on the left side, all collecting was done on the right wall, where footing could be obtained and many of the specimens we collected were picked up at random, at spots where the New Haven group had been digging, because it was too dark to examine them.

Among the specimens we collected were:

Calcite: Fairly common as white to pale cream cleavable masses and veins with fluorite and sphalerite. Tiny amber-yellow rhombohedral calcite xls occurred in a quartz vug.

Chalcopyrite: Small brassy-yellow masses with sphalerite in schist.

Fluorite: This appears to be the most common mineral in the cut and it occurs in coarse xline masses, green and purple in color. Sometimes the two colors occur together, green on purple or purple on green. Fluorite occurs in both rocks, mica schist and pegmatite, and it is found with most minerals present—calcite, galena, muscovite, sphalerite, etc. No matter what mineral you examine, fluorite seems to be present also. Though it is an attractive mineral, unfortunately the fluorite is so friable that pieces break off easily. Some of the fluorite fluoresce blue under the Argon light, many of them fluoresce a nice deep blue under short wave.

Galena: Another common mineral is galena. It occurs in small lead-gray

cleavable masses with fluorite, sphalerite, etc., in both mica schist and pegmatite.

Limonite: Yellow to dark brown earthy masses in quartz–quartz partly stained brown by it.

Microcline: Whitish, cleavable masses with purple fluorite and muscovite. Microcline is a constituent of the pegmatite.

Muscovite: Small to large silvery-white flakes and plates in pegmatite. One specimen found consists of large white plates with whitish microcline, smoky quartz, and purple fluorite. Some of the muscovite is in tiny, lustrous silvery-white flakes and may be sericite. Muscovite is a constituent of both pegmatite and mica schist.

Pyrite: Occurs as small pale brassy-yellow masses with sphalerite. Also noted in a quartz vug as a single brassy-yellow cube with tiny pale amber-yellow stilbite xls.

Quartz: Noticed as tiny rock xls (also pale smoky xls) in quartz vugs. Found also as drusy rock xls on mica schist, common as massive, smoky quartz as constituent of pegmatite.

Sphalerite: Fairly common as lustrous, xline, dark brownish masses with fluorite.

Stilbite: Occurs as cream-colored radiated masses with large white muscovite, whitish microcline, and smoky quartz. Also noticed as tiny pale amber-yellow xls in quartz vug.

Zircon: Here is a specimen that had us baffled for a number of minutes. It was discovered by its orange fluorescence but the mineral itself could not be found and–has not yet been found.

A 3 x 3 pegmatite specimen showed tiny orange fluorescence typical of zircon. Examination revealed that each fluorescent spot came from small colorless muscovite xls. As colorless muscovite will pass fluorescences through it, it is believed that each of these fluorescent muscovite xls had a tiny zircon xl imbedded in it–it is the zircon fluorescing through the muscovite as muscovite itself is not fluorescent.

Location

It was real dark when we left the locality–we were also muddy and tired –that I failed to get the route number of the road that separated the cut from the dam. The road was well traveled with cars going both ways (Don said it was Conn. 8,) at any rate we headed south for Thomaston.

43.1 mileage at cut and dam.

44.7 turn right on U.S. 6 in Thomaston (sign here reads–Danbury, 34 miles).

Thomaston is in S/E Litchfield County in western Connecticut.

A sad note

The railroad cut has been the scene of two tragic deaths, both by rockslides. In the New York Daily News, Wednesday, November 12, 1958, appeared the following:

Buried Alive by Landslide

Thomaston, Conn., Nov. 11 (AP).–Rescue teams dug gently tonight in an effort to rescue a construction worker buried with his power shovel by a landslide of rock and dirt.

Matthew Paragulo, about 38, was clearing a railroad crossing at the site of the Thomaston Dam project at dusk when he was caught by the mountainside avalanche.

Reports said it might be midnight before workers could reach him. They had to go cautiously. Any false move might bring another rockfall.

The Rev. David Lewandowski of St. Thomas Catholic Church administered last rites. He said: "It would be a miracle if this man is found alive."

The federally-financed project, being built in conjunction with Army engineers, employs more than 100 men. Soon after work started last April a man was crushed to death when a falling rock pinned him under a power shovel.

(Editor's Note–We heard later that Paragulo was found dead.)

(*Continued on page* 48)

WORLD NEWS ON Mineral Occurrences

ITEMS ON NEW FINDS ARE DESIRED
PLEASE SEND THEM IN.

Abbreviations: xl—crystal xled—crystallized xline—crystalline fl—fluoresces ph—phosphoresces

ALABAMA—Fibrous, brown hematite occurs in a deposit about 5 miles southeast of Calera, Shelby Co., Ala.

ARIZONA—About a year ago Mrs. Irene Barber, Rt. 9, Box 907, Tucson, Ariz., sent us some small lustrous black pebbles of obsidian.

In her letter, dated Nov. 14, 1957, she wrote:

"Last week our family rented a small vacation trailer and we went to the northern part of our state on a hunting trip. My husband and the boys hunt deer and I hunt rocks. The place that we go to is about 35 miles northwest of Flagstaff, in Coconino County, a pine-forested volcanic area. The elevation is around 7,000 ft. with the San Francisco peaks standing at over 12,000 ft. and Kendrick Pk. nearby at over 10,000 ft. Slate Mt., where we camp, has a lot of limestone outcroppings but most of the area is covered with volcanic cinder. On former trips I have had to concentrate on hunting Indian artifacts and there are black and brown obsidian chippings everywhere, as well as some scraps of pottery. We have found several nice obsidian points and two manos, plus scrapers of nice cherts and jaspers.

"On this trip we went farther northwest to Red Mt., a volcanic cone that has eroded away on one side, the east, so that now one can walk right into the heart of it, following up a stream-bed to the huge amphitheater which is crowded with cinder cones of a great variety of sizes and shapes. There are "seals" and "walrus" and "sleeping camels" as well as some cones nearby as tall as the mountain itself. In the stream-bed and in the cones are black pebbles of what I believe to be obsidian, and clear yellow plagioclase. I gathered some of the sand from the stream-bed to send you and will also send some of the pebbles.

"This strange place made my ten-year-old son, who is seldom timid, say, 'Mother, I don't like it here. It is scary. Let's go!'

"We found signs of deer, coyote, and wild turkey, and many birds were at home in the tall pines along the stream. They called their resentment at our intruding."

ARKANSAS—"Enclosed is a very odd quartz crystal (s). It seems to be above 7 in hardness. It will make a mark on any average quartz crystal. What do you think of it? It comes from about 7 miles north of Jessieville (Garland Co.), Arkansas on Highway 7. Right side of road in a rock bank. Recovered several of these and some very odd terminated groups—appeared more like the average epidote group than quartz but it is quartz."—letter dated March 27, 1958. from Capt. Geo. W. Owens, our Amateur Lapidary Conductor.

The specimen is a 1x1½-inch, flat, platy, colorless quartz (rock crystal), doubly terminated but instead of two large terminations, they are made up of

hundreds of tiny terminations. A tiny slender rock crystal penetrates the main body, ½ inch from the side.

It certainly is an odd crystal.

CALIFORNIA—The following letter, dated April 1, 1958, was sent by S. Grace Hower, 1212 So. St. Louis, Tulsa, Okla.

"While in California recently I visited the Los Angeles County Museum in Los Angeles to see the famous collection of Pleistocene fossils taken from the LaBrea tar pits. From one of the Curators in the paleontology laboratory I learned that the Museum last summer had made some very fine collections of Pleistocene vertebrates from a new locality on the shores of Lake Chapala near Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. The lake had been shrunken by drouth so that large areas of its bottom and many fossil bones were exposed. Natives gathered some of the latter for sale to tourists, one of whom, a rockhound from the Los Angeles area, brought a specimen to the Museum. As a result, exploration was begun last year and will be resumed in the summer of 1958. Perhaps some of ROCKS AND MINERALS southwestern correspondents could tell us how their hunting goes around Chapala, Ajicic and Tequila. The artists and writers and, latterly, the travel columnists have had their fling at paradise.

"Incidentally any rockhound who goes out this summer to see the Dodgers play at the Coliseum in Los Angeles can walk across the lawn to the County Museum for another thrill—the display of some of the Phipps Collection of gems. Beautifully shown in eye level wall niches are such superb items as a three inch faceted citrine weighing 944 carats; a chrysoberyl or true oriental cat's eye of 89 carats, the cabochon nearly an inch and a half long and very high; a five inch cairngorm heart, flat topped with faceted sides, the weight 3142 carats; a 10 inch crystal of sagenitic quartz with inclusions of seven different mineral species (goethite, rutile, tremolite, actinolite, chrysotile, epidote and tourmaline); a beautiful brown, faceted, 158 carat sinhalite, the magnesium aluminium borate first identified in 1952; a heavenly Siberian amethyst, the color of crushed loganberries. Alas, almost no localities are mentioned."

COLORADO—Some months ago we received a letter from Carl Seyfert, Jr., Box 1803, Vanderbilt Univ., Nashville, Tenn., reporting on collecting he did in Colorado during the summer of 1957.

"I was working in Colorado during my summer vacation and did a good deal of collecting during the weekends.

"At a mine east of Leadville (Lake Co.), Colo., almost at the end of Lake County, I found a specimen of small radiating chrysocolla crystals. This is very unusual since Frederick Pough, author of *A Field Guide to Rocks and Minerals*, says that chrysocolla crystals are reported from only *one* mine at Mackay, Idaho. Also found at this mine are malachite, azurite, cuprite, native copper, pyrite, quartz xls, chalcopyrite, sphalerite, smithsonite, chalcocite and others.

"At the Sedalia copper mine, north of Salida (Chaffee Co.), Colo., I found garnet xls (almandite) up to the size of softballs and weighing several pounds. Also found here malachite, azurite, chalcanthite, magnetite, hornblende, actinolite, tremolite, chrysocolla and others."

CONNECTICUT—"Here is a little something I picked up. I think it is not listed among the minerals from this locality. Perhaps you may find it of enough interest to put in your column on Mineral Occurrences."—note dated Feb. 3, 1958, from Bob Wages, Abby Road, Hazardville, Conn.

The specimen consists of tiny, bright brassy-yellow pyrite xls on iron stained massive quartz. Hazardville is in N.E. Hartford Co., in the northern part of Connecticut.

DELAWARE—"We were in Delaware May 10 & 11, 1958, in Milford Neck, Kent Co., near Thompsonville. On the property of Jacob R. Reynolds we found the largest specimen of red jasper we have yet seen in Delaware. It measures ¾" x 1½" x 2". One side appears to have been chipped away. Since it was found

along with Indian pottery, arrowheads and other sharp chips of gemstone material, we are confident that it was collected by an Indian from another source, probably the bay beach, for use in making arrowheads. Gemstone material seems to be found only on the surface at that particular spot. Arrowheads of red jasper are found in the area."–note date June 2, 1958, from Bob & Hazel Reynolds, Stocksdale Rd., Kingsville, Md.

FLORIDA–Ballast Point, near Tampa, Hillsborough Co., Fla., is world-famous for its chalcedony pseudo coral but a new one came to our attention recently. It is gypsum pseudo coral. This specimen was sent us by Mrs. H.E. Mallott, 325½ 41st St., No., St. Petersburg, Fla. The specimen is 3 x 4 x 2 inches thick. It is a mass of gray gypsum with a dark gray chalcedony core. Although gypsum is a very soft mineral, nevertheless the coral outlines are delicately preserved. It is a most interesting specimen.

"From Ballast Point Park in Hillsborough Bay, near Tampa, Fla."–on label.

GEORGIA–"Pale blue cordierite, the first to be recognized in Ga., has been collected in Monroe Co., near the old Persons Mica Mine. The cordierite is found at a depth of about 30 ft. in a new shaft being sunk by Mr. A.J. Moreland. The shaft is about 4 miles (airline) due N. of Culloden, and one mile S. of the Monroe-Lamar County line. The cordierite occurs in knots and irregular-shaped masses up to ¾" across in a garnetiferous sillimanite-biotite-plagioclase gneiss. A few blades of kyanite are found in the gneiss."–Mineralogical notes by Vernon J. Hurst, *Georgia Mineral* Newsletter, Summer 1956, p. 73 (Published by the Georgia Geological Survey, 19 Hunter St., Atlanta, Ga.–A.S. Furcron, Editor).

IDAHO–G. Elmo Shoup, Box 756, Salmon, Idaho, sent in a nice specimen. It is a copper, gold & silver ore from Charles Negus (Lemhi, Idaho) property at Hayden Creek, T. 17 N.–R. 20 E. BM (off Highway 28), in Lemhi Co., Idaho.

The specimen consists of brassy-yellow chalcopyrite (tarnished red-blue), green malachite coating, brassy-yellow pyrite, whitish scheelite–all in white xline calcite. No gold or silver visible, however.

ILLINOIS–H.E. Chelf, 314 E. Maywood, Peoria, Ill., in his letter, dated Feb. 10, 1958, writes:

"Wish to report an unusual find on my last trip to the Hardin County (Illinois) area in search of fluorite. At the Mackey Mine, junction of Rt. 34 & 146, near the 210 ft. level, a vug 10" x 12" was found containing calcite, fluorite & pyrite. This contained also blue, blue green xls 1/4" to 5/16" long in profusion. The amount and color attracted me and I removed 7 nice specimens. When identification was positive I was pleasantly surprised 'chalcanthite.' Realizing it is a difficult mineral to preserve, I immediately sent my extras to other collector friends. It's been quite a while since I reported anything but I'm still active and will be on the alert for others."

INDIANA–E.E.Gest, 6021 Rosslyn Ave., Indianapolis 20, Ind., sent in the following item clipped from the *Indianapolis News*, issue of April 4, 1958. The item, written by Wendell Trogdon, Staff Reporter, reads as follows.

BROOKLYN, Ind.–When folks around these parts need extra money, they can grab their dishpan and head for Gold Creek.

Oldtimers say there's gold along Gold Creek and Sycamore and Lamb Creeks, too. Diamonds, weighing as much as 3 carats, also have been found in the streams and their tributaries.

Fred Doyle, who lives in the Morgan County hills southwest of here, says he panned for the valuable dust for 40 years and could always find a few dollars worth each day.

"I'm 73, but I can still find the stuff," he said. "I've found eight diamonds in the stream, and one was a 3-carat."

Some of the best "panning" has been

done in streams running through Bradford Woods, an Indiana University outdoor education center.

Mayme Owens McKahan of Martinsville, who was reared by the Bradford brothers, recalled the days when she panned for gold.

"Why, son, I saw a man pan out $8 worth one day. I panned out enough dust myself to have a $50 gold bracelet and a ring made."

Now 80 Mrs. McKahan said attempts to use machines to mine gold in 1903 and again in the 1930s were unsuccessful.

"I found a 2-carat diamond and three small ones, though, that had been washed through the sluice boxes of the machines," she said.

Gold Starts in Morgan Co.

The "gold rush" in the area started in 1850, when a disenchanted Hoosier came home from California's gold rush, wiser but no richer.

Back in northern Morgan County, he used his leisure time to prowl streams, and search sand bars and gravel beds.

One day, near home, he found a deposit of black magnetic sand. He panned and found glittering specks of gold.

Another California returnee discovered what John was doing. Word spread and the rush was on.

Hundreds of gold-seekers poured into the area. Skilled panners made $2 and $3 a day—good money in those days.

No one can recall the names of the early panners, but some residents recall their parents talking about the rush.

Geologists say there's still gold in Morgan County and several other places in Indiana. But the small amount makes finding it worthwhile only as a hobby.

IOWA—Michael Papcun, RR 1, Melrose, Iowa, reports the finding of smoky-gray cleavable masses of fluorite in numerous septaria-like masses on an open hillside near Melrose, Monroe Co., Iowa.

KANSAS—"Near Hill City (Graham Co.), Kansas, is a quarry of opalized sandstone (locally called granite, also quartzite). Some fossils are to be found in the quarry."—item sent in by J.P. Clevenger, 1631 Mass., Lawrence, Kans.

KENTUCKY—A recent letter from Sfc. William J. Malarkey, who is stationed in Germany, reads:

"While stationed at Fort Knox, Ky., I made a trip to Springfield, Ky., going through Elizabethtown and Bardstown. I don't remember the exact point on the map but in a deep road cut somewhere between Bardstown and Springfield I found some very nice and clean specimens of coral limestone. On driving along this road it is virtually impossible to pass the place without noticing the location. It lies on the south side of the road travelling eastward."

LOUISIANA—Geo. O. Baird, Jr., who with Mrs. Baird, Jr., operate The Gem Rock at 2203 Greenwood Rd., Shreveport, La., sends in the following items on Louisiana:

1. Lots of fossils in the Red River Valley.

2. Lots of petrified woods in western Louisiana, including palm, oak, cottonwood, with drusy quartz, cypress and opalized persimmon (a most beautiful material).

3. Siderite with calcite in geodes in Caddo Parish.

4. Good selenite in vicinity of Bodcau Dam, Bossier Parish.

5. Good carnelian and other quartz materials in gravel pits.

MAINE—A pale bluish-green beryl was received from Henry P. Donnell, RFD 1, West Bath, Me. It is 1 inch long, slender, and a most beautiful stone. A note with it reads:

"We cut a big one and it is truly a beautiful thing to see. This is partly tumbled. It comes from the Topsham area of Sagadahoc Co., Me."

MARYLAND—"I am sending a specimen I found in a road cut in the South Mountain Scenic Area near Hagerstown (Washington Co.), Md. I wonder if you would be so kind as to identify it?"—Philip Presley, 110 N. Osborne Ave., Margate, N.J.

The specimen is a greenish epidote.

MASSACHUSETTS—"Received my first copy of R&M and find it very interesting, however I don't think I will ever be a collector of rocks and minerals. I am mainly interested in finding a gem or two. I know I can buy an emerald necklace for $20 as per your ads but I would rather find an emerald worth 50¢ even though it cost me $50 to do it. Last Saturday I took a ride to Royalston (Worcester Co.), Mass., in search of this emerald and found nothing except a little red something which I am enclosing. This was found in a rock along side of the road through the Royalston Falls Reservation. What is it?"—letter dated May 19, 1958, from Frank S. Richards, 33 Phillips St., Andover, Mass.

The something was a group of tiny quartz crystals stained red by iron.—very nice!

MICHIGAN—The following item, dated Aug. 16, 1958, comes from Harry A. Laurent, P.O. Box 645, Nashville, Mich.

"I am enclosing a small piece of mineral that came out of a well down about 80 ft. They had to stop drilling, this mineral was so hard it could not be cut. This was all they got out of the well, so I can not send you a larger piece.

"The well is located on the western edge of Eaton County, about 2½ miles south of Nashville, Mich."

The specimen is a lustrous mass of drusy, brassy-yellow pyrite—very nice.

MINNESOTA—"Here is a report on a find I made recently. It is an amber colored, botryoidal chalcedony with a slight drusy encrustation. I found it in some mud at the Minnehaha Golf Club, Minneapolis, Minn."—John T. Hanson 3624 Stevens Ave., So., Minneapolis 9, Minn.

MISSISSIPPI—A dark gray siliceous oolite pebble was sent us by J. S. Locke, 39-48th St., Gulfport, Miss. The locality for the pebble is Bell Creek, Harrison Co., Miss., about 18 miles N.W. of Gulfport.

MISSOURI—"Several trips have recently been made by the writer to the barite mining district in Washington County, Missouri. In this area many fine specimens of drusy quartz as well as barite and hematite have been collected. The barite occurs here mainly as residual deposits that have been weathered from veins of the original formation which is the Potosi dolomite of Cambrian age. Much drusy quartz occurs in the area and in many places it is found on the surface. Many colors are represented and while the crystals do not show perfect terminations they do have a tendency toward grouping in rosettes and some of these specimens would grace the mineral cabinet of any collector. The underside of some of the druses are a beautiful banded chalcedony that will polish nicely.

"Fine barite specimens, both bladed and tabular. are easily found for the mining operations are carried on from the surface by excavating machines.

"Some very pretty pieces of stalactitic hematite on quartz druses are in the writer's collection from this area.

"To anyone interested in this area, nice specimens can easily be found near the intersection of Missouri State Highways 21 and 47 near the village of Old Mines, also along Missouri Highway 8 east of the town of Potosi. All locations are in Washington County, Missouri."—John A. Allen, 1256 McLaran, St. Louis 15, Mo.

MONTANA—Gerald Navratil, Box 70, RFD 2, Middleburgh, N.Y., who has spent many summers in the northwest, sends in the following item on Montana:

"About 6 miles due west of Anaconda (Deer Lodge County), there is a gulch on the right hand side of the road going west. At the bottom of this gulch is a great deal of fluorescent wollastonite. It fluoresces blue just like scheelite. On top of the ridges on both sides of the gulch is fluorescent scheelite."

NEBRASKA—"Interesting iron concretions pseudomorph after roots are found north of Wauneta in Chase County, Nebraska."—item sent in by Mrs. Robert Cook, Callaway, Nebr.

NEVADA—"Gypsum crystals can be found at the Moundhouse quarry just off Highway 50, east from Carson City (Ormsby Co.), Nev., about 10 miles."—note sent in by A/2c Lawrence E. Wright, 55 PMS, Box 119, Forbes AFB, Kans. Mr. Wright's home is in Carson City, Nev.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—The following items, dated Oct. 26, 1958, were sent in by Gunnar Bjareby, 147 Worthington St., Boston 13, Mass.

"During the late summer of 1957 I visited the Chandler Mill's Mine, Newport (Sullivan Co.), N.H. I took home a few much altered, dark and rusty specimens of a mixture which evidently had been pyrite, siderite and a few others. Early this year I found several whitish, well formed 2-4 mm, pyramidal and tetragonal crystals of the rather rare mineral wardite. On a fresher specimen it was associated with a light blue mineral which might be augelite. The wardite from this locality has the characteristic striations parallel to the base of the pyramid which is typical of this species.

"Wardite has been found at Montebras, Soumans in the Dept. of Creuse, France. In Utah at Amatrice Hill, Lucin and Fairfield. In Maine it has been found in Newry both at the Dunton Quarry and the Nevel Mine. In N.H. it has been found also at the Beryl Mine on Beryl Mtn., South Acworth. Dr. Frondel of Harvard recently told me that wardite had been noted at the famous Palermo Mine in North Groton, N.H. This to me was very interesting news because during the past 20 years I have specialized on that locality. I have scrutinized several thousands of large and small specimens expecting to encounter this rare mineral sooner or later but so far it has not been on my material.

"Albeit that it has been found in five localities in this section of USA it is still far from common. There are many times more crystals on a square cm. of wardite from Fairfield, Utah, than on all the specimens so far found in New England. A few months ago Mr. A.M. Irvin of Somerville, Mass., showed me a specimen from the Chandler Mill's Mine. It was similar to what I had and it too had a few crystals which proved to be wardite."

NEW JERSEY—The Editor of R&M specializes in molybdenite and so the following letter and specimens were of more than ordinary interest. The letter was written by Mrs. Alex Knoll, 532 Edgar Rd., Westfield, N.J., dated March 17, 1958, and reads:

"Alex and I would like you to accept two molybdenite specimens we collected for your molybdenite collection.

"The molybdenite specimen from the Royal Green Marble Quarry dumps, Phillipsburg (Warren Co.), N.J., is interesting as it is radioactive.

"The molybdenite specimen from the Limestone Products Company's active quarry at Lime Crest (Sussex Co.), N.J. is interesting for it is more than scarce there. Alex was fortunate in finding some."

The specimen from Phillipsburg is a beauty, consisting of lustrous, lead-gray molybdenite in light green serpentine.

The specimen from Lime Crest consists of a small lustrous, lead-gray molybdenite in gray pegmatite.

NEW MEXICO—"Under separate cover I am sending you a specimen of wulfenite and a specimen of malachite. Both minerals are from New Mexico. The wulfenite is from the Stevenson-Bennett mine near Organ, Dona Ana

County, and the malachite is from the Orogrande iron district in Otero County. Wulfenite is very common at the Stevenson-Bennett, but I haven't been able to find any specimens of good quality. Small amounts of smithsonite and hemimorphite can be found on the dumps.

"Malachite is fairly common at the iron mines. It is associated with magnetite and specular hematite. The mines have been closed for 20 years, but quite a large amount of iron ore is still there. Chrysocolla, garnet, pyrite, bornite, chalcanthite, calcite and siderite are common."–letter sent in by William Dillon, 212 North St., McDonald, Pa.

The wulfenite from the Stevenson-Bennett mine is a group of fine pale yellow xls.

The malachite from Orogrande is especially attractive as it consists of delicate, bright green tufts on dark brown massive limonite.

NEW YORK–Another "new" mineral has been brought to our attention–limonite pseudo mica. It was found Sun., Sept. 28, 1958 by the President of the R&MA, Don Presher, Montrose, N.Y. The specimen consists of plates, flakes and a thin vein–all brown limonite pseudo mica–on dark smoky quartz. The locality for the interesting specimen is the old dump at New York City Aqueduct Shaft #8 in Putnam County, near Kent Cliffs, N.Y. (The shaft was abandoned about 15 years ago–nothing remains now but the old dump which is quite extensive).

John Kuhhorn, Germantown, N.Y., paid a visit in October 1958 to the old abandoned lead mine at Ancram, Columbia Co., N.Y. Among the minerals he found was white, xline albite coated with brown limonite and green malachite; gray coatings of calcite (fl. red) on massive smoky quartz, lustrous coarse xline galena with brownish xline sphalerite and massive smoky quartz; and grayish incrustations of hydrozincite (fl. bluish white) on sphalerite and galena.

NORTH CAROLINA–While at the Asheville, N.C., Convention last August (where R&M had a booth) we saw many, many beautiful minerals mostly from North Carolina. On Aug. 8, 1958, Boyd Hilton, Rt. 1, Newton, N.C. (one of our good subscribers) showed us something from his own collection that made our eyes sparkle–a handful of platy gold masses from the Shuford gold mine near Catawba (Catawba Co.), N.C. These gold masses were found within the last 4 years–he had leased the mine and worked it himself. The gold was found in brownish clay and varied from ½" up to 1½".

And to our great delight, Mr. Hilton said, "Take one, select it yourself." We selected one at random and it turned out to be a beauty–½ x ½" platy gold mass.

NORTH DAKOTA–Florence Newsom, Hurdsfield, N.D., sent us a number of minerals which she had found on her farm. One was a dark brown petrified wood.

Hurdsfield is in S W Wells County which is in central North Dakota.

OHIO–"I thought you might like some notes for World Occurrences in ROCKS AND MINERALS (a fine magazine). The *Cleveland Plain Dealer* frequently has articles of interest to amateur geologists. Sunday, March 30th, '58, the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* carried an article entitled 'The Deepest Hole in Ohio,' concerning a shaft being sunk by the Morton Salt Co. near Grand River, Ohio. They are going down 28 feet a week to a 20-foot vein of salt 1,920 feet down. The work is taking 2½ years and when it goes into operation late next year they will be mining 300 tons of rock salt an hour. There is a great demand for this type of salt in the chemical industry. About 60% will go to cities for ice control. This is of especial interest to Ohioans because now all salt is brought up as brine.–

'The same paper carried an article on Sunday, April 27, '58–'A Treasure

Hunt Under Lake Erie—Wildcatters prepare to Dig For Natural Gas and Oil.' This is a very interesting article about the State of Ohio leasing sections of Lake Erie for oil well drilling. The lake has been girded off so each 1,400 acre section can be identified readily. It is thought that the oil fields on both sides of the Lake extend out under it. 78 wells have already been sunk on the Canadian side since the end of World War II. The first drilling on the American side is near Erie, Pa. By next spring 'wildcat' operations are expected near Cleveland.

"In the same article mention is made of a 10-million dollar mining project soon to be started on Whisky Island by the International Salt Co. They have a 50 year lease to mine salt under a 5,193 acre tract of water." Letter dated May 12, 1958, from Mrs. Clarence Carey, P. O. Box 54, Collins, Ohio.

OKLAHOMA—"I am 11 years old. I enjoy reading R&M. I have started collecting minerals and fossils.

"I am enclosing 2 specimens that I would like for you to identify. They were found near Duncan, Okla. I have polished the end of one."—letter dated May 10, 1958, from Wayne Stephens, 2113-5th St., Bay City, Texas.

The specimens are fossils (crinoids), dark gray in color.

Duncan is in the western part of Stephens County in southern Oklahoma.

OREGON—An interesting specimen of rough brown petrified wood (bluish chalcedony center) was sent in by Mrs. Inez O. Rogers, P.O. Box 184, Oakridge, Ore.

"This petrified wood appears to be the remains of a huge tree and scattered about on the highest part of the ridge. It runs from cream to tan to the deepest purple. Most of it is brittle and fractured. I have had one piece cut and polished and it is almost as gorgeous as the Arizona Petrified Forest wood, except for the broken lines thru it. The huge butt of the tree is in one piece, the dozen or more individual set of rings set together in the one big chunk like a sunburst, all colors I named but brittle and full of lines, too."—writes Mrs. Rogers.

"From Lookout Point Reservoir on Willamette River, Lane County, between Oakridge & Lowell, Oregon."—on label with the specimen.

PENNSYLVANIA—At the Asheville, N.C., Convention last August where R&M had a booth we met hundreds of our subscribers one of whom was Mrs. Ethel Guinter, 1203 E. Springgettsbury Ave., York, Pa. Mrs. Guinter had with her a large number of limonite pseudo pyrite xls some of which she presented to us. We learned from her that these xls are quite plentiful around her city, York (York Co.), Pa., and that they occur in all sizes from tiny up to 1½" on the side. Large xls are found in a road cut, small ones in a brick yard (in clay), some small ones are found also on the ground in a field. The xls are loose, dark brown in color and the small ones are especially good as they are sharp, lustrous cubes. If anyone is interested, Mrs. Guinter would be glad to exchange these xls for other minerals.

RHODE ISLAND—Small, milky quartz xls occur in veins in fine grained black hornblende on Prudence Island, Newport Co., R.I., so we have been informed by Tim Moses, Bagy Wrinkle Cove, Warren, R.I.

SOUTH CAROLINA—Another subscriber whom we met at the Aheville, N.C., Convention last August was Dr. Waldo H. Jones, Box 375, Myrtle Beach S.C., who presented us with an unusually nice fossil coral. The specimen is gray in color and 5 x 8 inches in size.

"Pleistocene coral. Bed of U.S. Intracoastal Waterway—Pine Island cut. Myrtle Beach (Horry Co.), S.C."—on label.

SOUTH DAKOTA—At the N.E. edge of Hudson, Lincoln Co., S.D., is a gravel pit and from this pit we have two specimens that were sent us by Mrs. Ed

Olson, Beresford, S.D. One specimen is a gray chalcedony mass; the other is a dark gray compact limestone containing whitish cleavable calcite.

TENNESSEE—"There is a locality about 6 miles east of Woodbury (Cannon Co.), Tenn., where one can pick up geodes up to 50 lbs. or more by the hundreds. Some are solid, others contain rock xls, smoky quartz xls, and agate." –item sent in by Carl Seyfert, Jr., Box 1803, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.

TEXAS—Clay Ledbetter, 2126 McKenzie Ave., Waco, Texas, sent us two beautiful cabochons (1 inch diam.) of llanoite. This is a dark reddish-brown opalescent quartz porphyry (it is the quartz that is opalescent) and comes from a dike about 11 miles north of Llano (Llano Co.), Texas.

"Maybe you can use these for cuff links.–on label.

UTAH—Pat Fancher, Radium King Mine, Fry Canyon, Utah, sends in the following, dated Oct. 5, 1958:

"I've found some beautiful thundereggs here—red, yellow to orange, like a desert sunset. Petrified wood is plentiful but drab. And 2 & 3 lb. chunks of botryoidal hematite. This is in San Juan County, Utah."

VERMONT—Milton E. Ailes, Box 36, West Danville, Vt., sent in an interesting specimen—bluish, platy mass of kyanite in iron stained massive quartz.

"From West Danville, Caledonia Co., Vt."—on label.

VIRGINIA—From the famous tin deposits at Irish Creek, Rockbridge Co., Va., we have a very fine specimen that was donated by a famous mineral dealer, John S. Albanese, Box 221, Union, N.J. The specimen is a black mass of cassiterite (tin ore) associated with massive smoky quartz.

WASHINGTON—Nice colorless hyalite on black opal has been found in Deep Creek Canyon, near Spokane (Spokane Co.), Wash.

WEST VIRGINIA—Sinnit Cave is 0.4 mile N.W. of Moyers P.O., Pendleton Co., W. Va. It is quite an extensive cavern, with some walls coated by a black sooty film of manganese dioxide.

WISCONSIN—"On the day after Christmas, 1957, I found a beautiful gray agate with white ribbons in a gravel pit just out of town."—item sent in by the Rev. Harold Krenz, 611 E. Lake St., Horicon (Dodge Co.), Wisc.

WYOMING—Red, banded agate has been found 2 miles N.W. of Guernsey, Platte Co., Wyo.

ALASKA—Mary E. King, Star Route, Palmer, Alaska sent in a nice dark bluish-gray slab of chalcedony.

"From a road bed near here, it's very hard and takes a long time to cut on a big slabbing saw."—note on label.

AUSTRALIA—From Roger C. H. Doo, 135 St. Johns Road, Glebe, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia, we have received the following specimens:

Cassiterite: Tiny brownish loose specimens replacing fossil shells and crinoids. Very nice and the first we ever saw of this type of pseudomorph. Locality is Emmaville, New England District, N.S.W., Australia.

Cerussite: A beautiful one inch long spear-head twin (arrow-head form) white in color but deeply encrusted by dark red cuprite is this prized specimen. From the Proprietary Mine, Broken Hill, N.S.W., Australia.

"Collected in 1888, old timer."—on label.

Chalcophanite: A very nice stalactitic mass of lustrous black chalcophanite on

black, fibrous coronadite was another delightful surprise. Small, greenish embolite xls are scattered through the specimen whose locality is the Proprietary Mine, Broken Hill, N.S.W., Australia.

"First recorded from this loc."—on label. (Embolite has long been known to occur at Broken Hill, in fact all three have feen found elsewhere—the label may mean that the specimen may represent the first find of chalcophanite or coronadite, or both, at Broken Hill).

Davidite: Lustrous black mass from Thackeringa, near Broken Hill, N.S.W., Australia.

Mimetite: Brownish, passing into greenish, drusy xls on a quartz matrix.

"300 level, Proprietary Mine, Broken Hill, N.S.W., Australia. New Find."—on label.

CANADA—"I am submitting a contribution to World News on Mineral Occurrences.

"At the Kettle Point Indian Reservation, Ontario, Canada, on the shores of Lake Huron, is a radiating variety of black calcite called anthraconite. The anthraconite is found as large basketball size spheres set in shale banks. It is also found as huge kettle-shaped boulders (from which the point is named) and as broken pieces lying on the beach.

"The shale on the beach is likewise worth going after because it is an oil shale. Once while collecting at the point some unsuspecting picnickers set a stretch of the beach on fire (due to the oil shale).

"Some of the shale shows mud cracks, also fossils which can be found in almost any color."—letter dated May 31, 1958, from Brian E. Bell, 33023 Rayburn Ave., Livonia, Mich.

Celestite xls (note twinning). From Yate, Gloucester, England.

ENGLAND—W.L. Hiss, 437 W. Boyd, Norman, Okla., who was formerly in the U.S. Air Corps and stationed in England, sent in the following item and photo.

"I did some collecting at the Celestite Mines at Yate, near Bristol, England, where they are open-cast mining the ore from the Keuper Marl. The mines are just outside Chipping Sodbury, Yate. The photo shows one twinned crystal of celestite which is rare, according to Dana. I collected this specimen in the fall of 1957 while stationed in the service in England. The length of the twinned crystal is about 5 cm. The celestite occurs as evaporite lenses in the Red Marl bed of the Keuper Formation which is of Triassic age (Trias).

"For a nearly complete reference on the geology of this area, I suggest a handbook published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 'British Regional Geology, Bristol and Gloucester District, 1948.' This handbook can be purchased through H.M.S.O., 423 Oxford St., London, W.I, England, for about 4 shillings plus postage."

IRAQ—"I have received another letter from Bill Weigelt, Baghdad, Iraq. Here is a portion of it. It was written Nov. 20, 1957."—writes Kenneth Fisher, 147 Fairlamb Ave., Havertown, Pa. Mr. Weigelt's letter reads:

"The heat of the summer has kept us from any field trips here. The ambient temperature reached 125 degrees in July. Relative humidity 10 to 15%. This morning (Nov. 20) we are enjoying a rainstorm, the *first* rain we have had since April. One thing seems sure, one need not worry about having a day off spoiled by rain.

"I am much more acquainted with the mineral situation here in Iraq than I was the last time I wrote. A geological and mineralogical survey is being conducted and is expected to be completed in about 18 months. This survey was started about three years ago. The Iraq Development Board contracted a foreign concern to do this work. At present, the only mineral which is quarried commercially, is limestone and it is used in the manufacture of cement. There is one cement company. The stock dividends for the past two years have been 100% of the face value. The American-educated chemist of the cement company, Mr. Suliaman Al Nasiri, and I are going on a field trip to the most interesting quarry.

"Most of Iraq is not old enough, geologically, to be of much value to a mineral collector. Iraq is covered with gypsum, which is free in the clay. I have seen miles of it, but have not seen any xls as yet. Some phosphates are located near Rutba. Magnetite has been uncovered by the Site Investigation survey group near Rawandooz, which is on the Turkish frontier. Dolomite near Mosul; salt near Bouara; hematite near Barbandikhan and south of Sulamayia. Marble has been quarried near Rawandooz, but only when ordered. Zinc has been found north of the Gourge at Rawandooz. This last could be a very interesting item, however, all the information on zinc is in the files of the Site Co. and I have not interviewed them as yet. I suppose it is sphalerite and I have been informed that the site is not accessible by motor lorry. This survey group has just begun to scratch the surface of the mineral situation in Iraq. Only one location can be visited on a one-day trip. So much for Iraq."

Mr. Weigelt is no longer in Iraq; on Dec. 15th, 1958, he left to return to the U.S.A.

SCOTLAND—In his letter dated Aug. 8, 1958, Sandy Ramsay, 1015 Aikenhead Road, Kings Park, Glasgow S4, Scotland, writes:

"Well after the last few days of rush and bustle our Centennary was finally triggered off, being opened by Sir Edgar Bailly, with a very impressive turnout. I was even there, myself, by invitation, and the exhibition looks quite shipshape and Bristol neat, but lacks a flamboyant

exhibit such as you Americans are capable of. Hugh MacCallum gave a show of faceted Scottish gemstones, plus a few cabochons, including my newly found gem quality thomsonite. Archie Forrest, who will be visiting Austin, Texas, in October, had a big display of agates from many Scottish localities. I had a mineral display, and there was a fossil display. There was a fluorescent show also, and I was asked to augment their exhibit as it was known that I took a keen interest in fluorescence, so I sent up a load of specimens and a booklet on fluorescence that had been sent me by Dr. H.C. Dake of Portland, Ore. I sent also a fluorescent gemstone (faceted willemite from Franklin, N.J.) and someone had added a few other fluorescent gemstones to the riker box that I sent the willemite in but as they had forgotten to remove the glass lid it must have been a puzzle to viewers.

"Was in Inverness where I saw Ernest Stollery who had just received a few pieces of bloodstone from Sgurr Mor, on the island of Rum (a small Scottish island). There is no red jasper in the piece I got, but the bloodstone is loaded with small spheres of chalybite—as soon as I cut it in two I will send on a piece to you.

"Got a nice piece of prehnite yesterday at Boyleston quarry (Barrhead, Renfrewshire, Scotland). It has a twin xl of calcite in it, between 1¼ x 1½ inches long. This crystal had prehnite on it. The first time I have seen such a thing."

SPAIN—Juan Montal, Plaza Sagrado Corazon 1, Vilafranca del Panades, Spain, sent us recently an interesting specimen from the world's most famous mercury mines, those at Almaden, Spain. The specimen consists of tiny rock xls on red cinnabar xls.

TURKEY—Some months ago when L. O. MacMurdy was stationed in Lebanon, a small republic bordering on the Mediterranean Sea, he sent us a large assortment of minerals and sands from Lebanon and nearby countries.

From Turkey we received a nice specimen of deep black jet, also a string of 34 lustrous, deep black jet beads—each bead is almost ¾ inch long.

"Jet, natural specimen. The largest pieces found are about the size of a man's fist. This jet comes from Erzurum, a village in eastern Turkey.

"Erzurum (jet) beads—turned on hand powered lathes in primitive workshop in the village of Erzurum, Turkey." —on labels. Mr. MacMurdy is now in the Philippines.

U.S. National Museum modernizes gem and mineral exhibit

Washington, D.C.—"Gems and Minerals," the most recent exhibit hall to be modernized by the Smithsonian Institution, was opened to the public Friday, August 1, 1958, in the Natural History Building of the U.S. National Museum, Washington, D.C.

Exhibits include the most extensive collection of gems on display in this country, and a large and representative sampling of specimens from the nation's mineral collection, which is the world's finest.

Nearly every variety of gem is represented. Many are of enormous size. Among them are a 316-carat star sapphire, a 66-carat alexandrite, and a 310-carat peridot. The last two are the largest gems ever cut from these stones. Also displayed is the Shephard diamond, a very rare flawless canary-yellow gem weighing 18.3 carats.

Among the gems is a set of pearls consisting of a necklace, choker, and earrings given by the Iman of Muscat to the U.S. Government. Also shown are the original gold nugget which set off the California gold rush, discovered at Sutter's Mill in 1848 by James Marshall; and the world's largest flawless crystal ball, a perfect sphere almost 13 inches in diameter and weighing 106¾ pounds.

The mineral section of the new hall contains examples of all the principal species of minerals, selected and lighted to make a vivid display of their natural beauty and color.

PERFECTLY PRESERVED

5,220-Year-Old Oak Tree Dug Up at Power Plant Site

Excerpt From Holyoke Daily Transcript, Holyoke, Mass. July 29, 1958

Over 5,000 years ago a large oak tree prospered in the Connecticut Valley—probably one of many thousands.

This oak tree grew from its smallest beginnings to a handsome size. It lived thru its seasons: from Spring's earliests buds, into the full flower of Summer, and on to Fall's reds and yellows, and eventually to the November brown and Winter's "hibernation."

At some point, 5,000 years ago, this oak disappeared from the face of the earth. Some natural phenomenon, such as flood or storm, felled the oak, and the earth covered it.

33 Feet Below Ground

That tree has been resurrected.

Man's machinery has undone what nature took 50 centuries to accomplish. The tree, perfectly preserved, was found 33 feet below the ground level at the new Mt. Tom power plant of the Holyoke Water Power Co.

The steam shovels found a mighty log blocking their way as they excavated for the new power plant. That log, immersed in water, was cut out and brought to the land surface. And geologists have been having a field day.

Geologists Field Day

Robert E. Barrett, Jr. called on Prof. John C. Haff of the Geology Department at Mount Holyoke College for counsel. Prof. Haff recognized the "find," and he was quick to bring his students over to probe the excavation. Geologists from Amherst College, Harvard University and United States Government have also become interested.

The actual age of the tree was not determined until recently. Mr. Barrett sent a section of the trunk to Isotopes Inc. in Westwood, N.J., where latest laboratory techniques were brought to bear, and the report was returned last week.

5,220 Years Old

The age of the tree is 5,220 years, plus or minus 150 years. At the oldest, it is 5,370 and at its youngest, 5,070.

Prof. I. W. Bailey of Harvard University identified the species as an oak. of either the white, swamp or chestnut variety.

Other items of interest that were found in the excavation were pine cones, twigs and butternuts, all in perfect shape. They were all preserved by the water in which they rested. The cones and twigs were found 10 feet deeper than the tree.

Mr. Barrett, who is particularly grateful to Prof. Haff for advice on the geological treasures, told about the discoveries today at the Rotary Club Meeting.

The above story was sent in by John Russell Dowd, 226 Walnut St., Holyoke, Mass.

"Coming your way by parcel post is a sample of the old tree. Thought you might like this for your collection and that the story would be of interest to the readers of R&M."—note attached to the story.

The wood sample also arrived, a nicely sawed section 6 inches in diameter and 1 inch thick, dark gray in color, of light weight but rings and bark perfectly preserved. The sample came mounted in a gold-colored box with a plastic cover so that it stands out distinctly. Our grateful thanks are extended to Mr. Dowd for this most interesting and attractive souvenir.

The power plant mentioned in the story is in or near Holyoke, Mass.

SYNTHETIC LAPIS LAZULI SPINEL

Newcomer to the field of man-made gems

By JOHN M. WISE, Gemologist and Lapidary
108 W. Fayette St., Baltimore 1, Md.

We live in the age of synthetics and synthesis of natural materials. No branch of our economy therefore can afford to sit still on laurels, aquired 50 or more years ago. The simulation of gemstones has been man's ambition ever since the beginning of time but all experiments in this field up to the famous Frenchman Verneuil resulted only in inferior "Make Beliefs" and not in the true replica of nature's very own. This famous chemist was the first to fuse the finely powdered substances of the natural gemstones and form them into crystals that were caught on the top of magnesia rods. It is this downward heat reaction to which we owe our synthetic ruby and spinel. Verneuil's method was improved and extended so that by adding coloring agents, we speak now of true synthetics like ruby, sapphire and spinels and of kunzite-like, topaz-like, aquamarine-like corundum and spinel. The difference of course is the true synthetic has the same chemical and physical composition as the natural stone, while the others are just hard, durable manmade materials that have the appearance of the genuine gem.

But this is the middle of the 20th century; new avenues are being used to bring better and improved materials to all mankind. Today we make new substances NOT by liquifying a powder and then slowly cooling it but by taking advantage of the reactions WITHIN a solid material when exposed to enormous heat until it forms the character of a gem material. This is demonstrated to you by this new synthetic LAPIS LAZULI SPINEL. It gives us the color and appearance of the choicest natural material but has the distinct advantage of the hardness and resistance to wear of spinel (H.8), while the natural stone is only Hardness 5 and hardly ever pure. This material is definitely SUPERIOR to nature's own. This raw and cut material has been examined by some of the most outstanding authorities in the field of gemology and gem research like Prof. Dr. Schlossmacher of the Institute of Gem Research, Idar-Oberstein in West Germany; B. W. Anderson, F.G.A. of the Chamber of Commerce in London, England and many many more. Their findings were:

Color: similar to finest lapis; equal to the best Afghanistan lapis, etc.

Hardness: Like natural spinel; 8¼, 8

Specific Gravity: 3.58; 3.50; 3.52

Refractive Index: 1.72; 1.725

Single Refractive: color-fast and color true

X-ray Analysis: grating constant 8.042

Spectral Analysis: 3 cobalt bands centers at 5400, 5800, 6350 A.U. and others

Chemical Resistance: to sulphuric, nitric, hydrochloric, amino acids and others

Heat and Cold Constant: minus 30 to plus 200 degrees Celsius

(Editor's note: A 1 x 1¾ inch slab of this synthetic azure-blue lapis lazuli spinel was received from Mr. Wise. It is a beautiful specimen).

Obituary Notice

Fred C. Knowlton

I have just received a "Cactus" Collectors Bulletin from the USA and read of the death of one of my very good friends, Fred C. Knowlton, 77, of Bayfield, Colo. He passed away on June 12, 1958, from burns he received when his home burned to the ground, destroying everything.

I would like you to make this known to Fred's many mineral-swapping friends (he was a great cactus collector also) so that they won't think Fred has forgotten them because they don't hear from him.

John W. Edwards
Wyebridge, Ont., Canada

THE MICRO-MOUNTER

Conducted by Neal Yedlin—129 Englewood Drive, New Haven, Conn.

Let's see what the new year brings.

Microscope: Unitron, 204 Milk St., Boston, Mass., is selling a fine stereo-binocular 'scope for $110.00. A really fine job. Good optics. Fine frame and mechanics. Well tooled and designed. Fixed objective of 2X. Wide field eyepieces 5X, 10X or 15X. Or all three available. We examined this instrument at the Pennsylvania Mineral Society show in October, and we think it is just the thing for collectors of m/m minerals. A fine precision instrument at a comparatively low cost. Write for their free catalog.

Micro-Mount Mineralogy: More and more is this phase of the mineral collecting hobby becoming widespread. Originating in the East it traveled westward, gained a foothold in Arizona and Colorado, continued west to California, north to Alaska, and gradually permeated the entire country. (We like to feel that when m/m collecting reached Alaska, that territory was ready, applied for admittance as a state and was accepted.) M/m exhibits and competitions now are part of almost all mineral shows. The Mineral Society of Pennsylvania, at its affair at Doylestown, Pa., featured such a competition at which we were privileged to be judge. The entries in this field were superb, and for the first time a beginner, Bill Yost, entered the charmed circle of winners, gaining third place. This was his first competition. Leonard Morgan, an old campaigner, was second. Paul Seel, perfectionist, was awarded the blue ribbon.

Dealers are featuring m/m material for sale. Some, like Byron and Goudey, handle m/ms exclusively, not for profit, but as a service to the collector. Others, like Scott Williams, Burminco, Schortmann's, Minerals Unlimited, Albanese and Ward's, indicate on their price lists which of the things offered for sale would make good m/ms. Some wonderful things turn up.

We shall not go into the merits of this type of collecting except to emphasize a few things. To the cutter and average collector sodalite is a blue massive mineral, beautiful in cabochons or as desk sets. To the micro-mounter sodalite is a white dodecahedral xl, on idocrase, from Vesuvius. To the average collector greenockite is either a name in a book or a yellow powdery coating on Tri-state sphalerite. To the m/m enthusiast it is a superb group of red hemimorphic xls on xld wavellite from Chile, or a lustrous tan xl on prehnite from Scotland. Tephroite from Franklin, N.J., is usually a grey or purple-brown mass, with massive willemite and franklinite. But in m/m quality the mineral occurs as brilliant complex orthorhombic xls, usually associated with transparent green, striated prisms of willemite and often coraloidal stringers of orange friedelite. A cabinet specimen collector may have a 3" x 4" specimen of cleavelandite albite showing a fine beryl or tourmaline. The m/m enthusiast takes some rock from the same pocket and finds perfect xls of tourmaline, garnet, bertrandite, fluorite, apatite, microlite, columbite and others. And some with rare and unusual forms, too. The average collector can never take that better job in another state because he's anchored (literally) to his rock-ballasted house. The micro-mounter puts his whole collection on the left rear seat of the car and is off for greener pastures. Seriously, however, we personally feel that the advanced collector of hand specimens is losing out on most of the real fun of his hobby.

Notes, News and Opinions:

1. Rosasite is aurichalcite.

2. Neomesselite is messelite.

3. Check for scorzalite when you open a vug in massive lazulite and come upon fine brilliant blue xls.

4. Copper and silver can be cleaned perfectly, without any etching, with this formula, suggested by the late O. Ivan Lee:

1 part lye (sodium hydroxide)
3 parts Rochelle salt
20 parts distilled water.

Mix in a glass container. (Be careful to avoid spilling or splashing, for the lye is caustic.) Put a copper wire around your specimen and immerse, letting it hang free. Soak until the specimen is clean and bright. (A few hours) The solution will turn blue. Rinse in water and the specimen is ready for display. NOTE: If the mineral previously had been coated, or is grimy with oil or grease, these must first be removed. Alcohol dissolves shellac and grease. Acetone (lacquer thinner or clear nail polish remover) removes lacquer. Detergents remove grease and dirt.

5. At the point when a specimen is ready to mount on its balsa wood or cork pedestal take some time to improve its appearance. With a needle remove broken xls and interfering matrix. Then soak in warm detergent solution. (Except water soluble minerals, of course.) Oily film, dust and grime will be removed and the m/m will shine in glory.

6. Call it anatase, not octahedrite; idocrase, not vesuvianite; hemimorphite, not calamine; sphene, not titanite. These, among others, were decided upon some years ago at an international convention. And by the same token, call yourself a mineral collector, not a rockhound.

7. The average good m/m collection today is superior to the old-time collection. This is not entirely our own opinion, but is concurred in by Louis Perloff and Paul E. Desautels, associate curator of mineralogy and petrology at the Smithsonian. New and better material, greater numbers of participants, new techniques in mounting as well as better viewing apparatus are the rule to-day. The modern collection has all that the old ones had, and more. The old mounts were good, but not usually unique or outstanding. Of collections acquired by us we retained fewer than 200 of 1000 mounts of the first, about 60 of 500 from the second, and perhaps 100 of 700 from the third. These were not the outstanding publicized collections, but, nevertheless, were typical of the times. We have seen random portions of the collections of George L. English, Lazard Cahn, F. Keeley, G.W. Fiss, J. Grenzig, C.S. Bement, and others. We own some of the originals and duplicates of Rakestraw, Bement, Fiss, Jefferis, Wills, Boyle, Lee, Jacoby, Haneman, Brinton and Grenzig. We'll say it again. The serious micromount collector to-day has a better collection than his counterpart in the past. He needs no colored boxes, nor brass rings around the corks, nor bi-colored labels, nor red cement to enhance the appearance of his mounts. He blackens the interior of his boxes, uses a small inconspicuous pedestal, has no glue showing, and is fastidious about the specimen itself. Without apology, without embellishment and without publicity it sits up for all the world to see and says, "Here I am. Examine me carefully. I am the best there is."

8. From the [illegible]ophyllite quarry near Staley, Randolph Co., N.C., comes some 10 lbs. of material, supplied by Lou Perloff, of Winston-Salem, N.C. The pyrophyllite here is mined for use as a paint and paper filler, and as a lubricant for automobile tires. It occurs as clean, white, bladed, silky masses. Zonally scattered throughout these masses are patches of orange-brown, minute, isolated xls. Under the 'scope these prove to be euhedral xls of rutile, and so profuse are they that it is difficult to decide which specimens to mount. Some occur on an associated clear quartz, and when vugs appear the rutile lines them, in brilliant xls.

Portions of the quarry yield massive

blue lazulite, embedded in the pyrophyllite. One such piece of lazulite, when broken, exhibited an open seam, showing beautiful blue micro xls. Additional research on this material should turn up many more xld specimens.

When rare and unusual things are discovered the m/m collector will find them. Pyrophyllite is no rarity, certainly. But terminated xls of the stuff! Well, we have 'em. In the material from Staley, where 3 balls of radiating needles joined, a triangular space was created. The needle ends thus had an opportunity to form freely. Specimens were found with surfaces of terminated xls. Rare m/ms indeed!

9. Some Recent Acquisitions:

Ajoite: Pima Co., Ariz.
Autunite: Spruce Pine, N.C.
Autunite in hyalite: Minas Geraes, Brazil
Beryllonite, clear xls with herderite: Newry, Maine
Boracite: Hannover, Germany
Bornite, pseudo chalcocite: Pinal Co., Ariz.
Diamond, 25 xls showing forms from cube to hexoctahedron: S. Africa
Ferberite: Nederland, Colo.
Gold: Placer Co., Cal.
Huebnerite: Silverton, Colo.
Barite on bornite: Pinal Co., Ariz.
Kasolite: No. Territory, Australia
Ludlamite: Keystone, S. Dakota
Molybdenite: Chelan Co., Wash.
Murdochite: Bisbee, Ariz.
Papagoite: Pima Co., Ariz.
Phosgenite: Laurium, Greece
Phosphuranylite: No. Territory, Australia
Pyromorphite: Burke, Idaho
Saleeite: No. Territory, Australia
Strengite: Polk Co., Ark.
Torbernite: Sonora, Mex.
Uranophane, bladed xls: Grants, N. Mex.
Wardite: Fairfield, Utah.

We repeat. These are listed merely to indicate what is currently available. Most were purchased from dealers. A few were obtained in exchanges with museums and colleges. The rest were acquired by swapping around among the collectors we know.

INFORMATION WANTED BY READERS

Siderite Quartz

Could you inform me as to where the Indigo or Berlin Blue Siderite Quartz is found? It is a rather rare quartz and I have been trying for a long time to locate and obtain a specimen.

George Kober
Brownstown, Ind.

Siderite Quartz is a coarse-grained, opaque quartz colored blue (indigo or Berlin blue) by included fibers of crocidolite. It is found in an impure limestone at an old iron mine (siderite) at Golling, in Saltzburg Province, Austria. There are about ½ dozen gypsum quarries in Golling, the iron mine (only one present) is about a 10 minute walk from the nearest quarry. The iron mine is now almost obliterated.

This quartz has a number of names such as siderite, siderite quartz, sapphire quartz, Berlin blue quartz, etc. Because it was found in a siderite mine may be the reason why it has been called siderite quartz; because its color resembles that of the sapphire is why it is often called sapphire quartz.

Some of our advertisers (gem dealers) may have this quartz in stock. Try International Import Co., 604 Peachtree St., N.E., Atlanta 8, Ga., who carry a wide stock of rare gems.

THE AMATEUR LAPIDARY

Conducted by Captain George W. Owens

Hq. Sq. 384th Bombardment Wing, Little Rock Air Force Base, Jacksonville, Arkansas

Amateur and professional lapidaries are cordially invited to submit contributions and so make this department of interest to all

Out of the Ordinary in Cabochons

Not all collectors cut and not all cutters collect, yet all of us at one time or another have seen an unusual appearing cabochon that by its very appearance was most intriguing. If all the cabochons that have been fashioned since the world began were placed in one pile, that pile would probably equal Mt. Everest in height, for cabochons have long been a favorite form among craftsmen. No doubt the very earliest, or first rockhound turned cutter, made a fair cab with his efforts. The style, with variations, has continued to this date. Just about every natural material that can be polished has been used and while a good guess would be that only one out of a hundred would qualify as a gem, and only one out of a thousand would qualify as a rare item. These few are most worthy of our attention. We will not consider the quartz family at this time other than to say that the many many varieties of jasper, agates, etc. have certainly enhanced all of our own collections and are well represented in the museums of the world.

A beautiful cabochon is an object of art. One can look at them again and yet again, always finding something new. Many cabochons can be classed as true gems. In some materials such as moonstone the billowy play of light defies description yet one can watch the phenomena for hours without tiring. Other materials offer similar circumstances. Some of our classic cabochons have been cut from:

Smithsonite: Translucent to opaque. Light tones of green, brown, yellow, or blue (pink is extremely rare). New Mexico, Africa, etc. Hardness 5 to 5½. A very beautiful green found in New Mexico. This material, also known as "turkey-fat ore", was once found in a very vivid yellow in Arkansas, but can only be located now in the hands of collectors as the location has not produced for years. Smithsonite is not particularly tender in cutting but polishes with scratching unless care in sanding is taken. Polishes on felt with either tin or cerium oxide. Well wetted leather and Linde A will give a faster and a better polish. Very little material in amateur hands. Dealers I have contacted say the material is rarely available. Most collections lack a good specimen and this is one of those hard to find stones. A few appear on the market from time to time, either recovered from old collections or imported. A standing order with E. E. Joachim, 1710 Inverness Avenue, NE, Atlanta, Georgia, may bring you a stone on approval. If anyone can locate a specimen of this interesting material for you, it will be "Jo" (as his many many friends call him). Jo is an avid collector, does excellent gold work, and has many duplicates in his collection. A letter to him is well worth your time.

Variscite: Hydrous aluminum phosphate. Opaque, yellowish-green to blue green. Originally used as a substitute for turquoise, this Utah material now has become fairly common in amateur circles where it is prized for its mottled appearance. Fine cabinet size specimens of this stone are extremely hard to find but cutting materials are not rare. Cuts rather rapidly and caution is advised for this reason. A fine polish is readily obtained using Linde A on leather. Finished stones are suitable for bracelets, ear wires, etc., but are a trifle soft for use in rings. They also make a nice addition to the collection. While variscite is

found elsewhere in the world, the only cutting material known to me comes from the state of Utah.

Rhodonite: Manganese silicate. Opaque. Various hues of rose and pink. Beautiful when patterns of black oxide of manganese are present. Fine material comes from Australia and Russia. San Bernardino County, Calif., has produced some very nice material. Also found elsewhere in the U.S. Has been used to make fine ornamental and decorative objects such as picture frames, spheres, trays, etc. as well as beautiful cabochons and beads. Most all rhodonite is massive but very rarely it is found in fine crystals. This material undercuts and it is most important that care be used in all stages of sanding. The final sanding should be on 400 or even 600 wet sanding cloth. If the cloth is well worn the final result will be even better. Polish on leather using Linde A. A teaspoon full of Linde A in a half pint of water will give better results than a thick paste of polish. Felt will not polish rhodonite. By careful preparation of your material you can obtain a high polish and the result will be most pleasing. A really good rhodonite is a sound investment and a welcome addition to any collection. Unless you have considerable experience with undercutting materials, it is suggested that your first stone be very high domed and modest in size. Here again, care and caution are indicated in all stages of cutting. The finished stone with its fine high polish will be your reward.

Good rhodonite is offered in slabs or rough by a substantial number of our mineral dealers. For your first stone it may be to your advantage to get a single small slab. Why not order some today and try your hand at cutting this interesting stone.

Thomsonite: Opaque. White, yellow, green, red, etc. is agate like. From Lake Superior region. Odd bands and swirls make interesting cabochons. Has a hardness between 5 and 5½. Good material is now hard to find. This beautiful stone is one that requires care in fashioning due to uneven hardness. They cut quickly, and a poorly shaped stone can easily result. As a rule, the best pattern or markings of this fine material lies near the surface; excessive grinding is not recommended. While this material has been most popular in the district where it is found, it has become known to collectors all over the world. Fine specimens command a fair price and a really good example deserves a prominent position in your collection. Here is one stone that most collectors lack and good cutting material is certainly hard to find. If you have any rough, value it as it deserves and be sure to cut a stone for your own collection before that generous impulse deprives you of it. A fine polish is obtained using cerium oxide on a felt buff.

Calcite: Carbonate of lime. Hardness only 3. Just about every color known to man has been reported. When pure it is colorless. Best known as Iceland spar. Doubly refractive and a very interesting cabochon can be made from this material because of this effect. Calcite is a problem stone due to its perfect cleavages (3 directions), and its sensitivity to heat. It can be hand-worked with regular files, etc. but is next to impossible to grind on a regular diamond lap. It can be ground, using 600 or 800 bort, provided extreme care to avoid wheel shock is used and the wheel is kept flooded with warm water. Best grinding was obtained using a cast iron disc and loose grit. While hand methods of filing and sanding are slower, the results are probably superior. Polish on wax with cerium oxide or hand polish using a linen cloth and tin oxide mixed with a solution of oxalic acid. (*Caution*: *Oxalic acid is a poison.*) Due to the low hardness (3) of this material most of us have never cut a cab from it, but a successful stone is possible indicating that many other materials in this hardness range can also be cut. Someday some good amateur is going to establish a method we can all follow to process stones in this hardness.

There is an abundant supply of rough calcite. It is found in Texas, California, Missouri, Montana, etc. in cutting grades

and may be readily obtained at a reasonable cost from nearly all dealers. If you are tired of the task of cutting more and yet more agates, try this one! It is a good talking piece and if you do a good cutting job you can certainly baffle a lot of your friends with it as they will have a hard time identifying this mineral in cut form. It is missing from most collections and while it makes a fine odd stone, how many have ever seen a cabochon of calcite? The "onyx" type of calcite also offers unlimited possibilities as a decorative stone. A fine pair of lamps were made by me several years ago from some California material. The lamps have round up-rights which were turned on a lathe. The hole for the wire was hand-drilled using an ordinary brace and concrete bit. The base was made from extra thick slabs. No difficulty was encountered in polishing such large areas. The pattern in most onyx is too large to make interesting cabochons but some material containing many fine bands could be used to good effect.

Sodalite: A complex silicate. Translucent to opaque, rarely transparent. Green, gray, yellowish, blue, light violet, and sometimes light red. From Europe and South America, Greenland and Canada, etc. In the states at locations in Maine and Mass. Here is one material that is more readily available to eastern cutters yet one seldom sees a really good specimen in their collections. It cuts and polishes with ease and should have more consideration shown than it has received. A fine sodalite of any size at all should be a highly valued collection item. Some of you good Maine people may be overlooking what could well become one of your best trading items. Sodalite cuts rather rapidly and responds with a nice polish to cerium oxide on a felt buff. Here is one natural stone that when in a good blue color is most prized. There certainly should be at least one such stone in your collection and it is surprising how few of the eastern cutters have one. Let us get busy and remedy this sad situation at once!

Chiastolite: A variety of andalusite. Opaque to translucent in areas. The internal arrangement of the carbon impurities generally form a cross. This makes chiastolite a most interesting material from which many and varied cabs may be processed. From California and Massachusetts. The California material is found as loose XLS, some of very large size, while the material of Mass. is generally encased. Several of the finest cabochons that I know of were the product of a gentleman from Maine. The polish he obtained was exceedingly high, rivaling that obtained on the best of good agate. While I have not succeeded in duplicating this high polish, a very nice job was accomplished using Linde A on leather. It is to be noted that a fine sanding job is essential to a good polish on this material. I recommend 400 or 600 well worn, wet type sanding cloth. These stones, while somewhat soft for ordinary ring wear make excellent cufflink sets and other jewelry items as well as enhance your collection. Any Massachusetts or Maine subscriber to R&M who has the grinding and polishing of chiastolite down pat is asked to write an article on the location and also give us all the benefit of your experience in cutting and polishing this fine material.

A good chiastolite is a fine trading item and you will find that you can make a very good bargain if you have taken the trouble to learn something of its background. This is especially true if your efforts have resulted in a presentable stone. Only about one out of ten collections have any type of chiastolite so the field is wide open for some enterprising fellow to take this opportunity to enlarge and enhance his own collection through a series of trades.

It has been said that Sears Roebuck and Company have sold some half-million gem-making machines during the past few years. This being the case, it is most evident that our hobby is growing fast. Do you know someone who does not subscribe to R&M? Is there some lost soul or rugged individual who is attempting to assemble a reasonable collection without the aid of the many tips and offers made in our magazine? Please ex-

tend to him my sympathy—but better yet, why not give him a subscription as a birthday present? I have followed this practice for several years now and find it is better appreciated than gifts which cost much more. Try it once. I am sure you will be pleased with your friend's reaction.

There will be another article on cabochons in the near future. Opals, opal doublets, amber, and several rare items will be discussed. You who have comments on this series please hasten your letters so that an answer may be made in the next issue.

To the reader who wrote requesting information on use of oxalic acid and did not give a return address: Your mixture of one ounce of oxalic acid to one half-pint of water should work. Remember that this is a poison. It will polish onyx and a fine high gloss is possible. Cerium oxide will give the same results but may be slower in action. Your polish "sticking" to your work is common with some types of onyx but the remedy is fairly simple.

If you must use oxalic acid, continue the polishing action until you feel you have achieved as good a polish as is possible; immediately place your sphere in warm water and rub briskly with a clean cloth. This will remove the particles of "polish" that adhere.

Gem Sphene found near Ensenada, Mexico

We are indebted to Casa de Pena, P.O. Box 249, Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico, for a clipping describing a new find of gem sphene (titanite).

The clipping was taken from the Sunday, Nov. 9, 1958, Press-Enterprise of Riverside, Calif., and reads as follows:

Elsinore, Mexico, Nov. 8, 1958—The discovery in Baja California of a scarce gemstone called sphene has set the rock hound world agog.

Gordon Hunt of Elsinore has recently been exhibiting a piece of the rare gem which he brought from Ensenada (Baja California), Mexico. It weighs 195 grams or 975 carats. It was found by miners working for him and his partner, Percy Hussong, in their explorations for gemstones, he said.

Hunt related how he thought he had something rare but did not know what it was until he saw an article by Hugh Leiper in the October issue of the "Lapidary Journal." This described sphene which had recently been brought by miners from Baja California to Fred Harvey's Rock Shop at Leucadia.

After reading the article, Hunt took his gemstone to Harvey, who verified it as sphene.

The unusual gem is a greenish-amber mineral and is very brilliant when cut, Hunt said. It is faceted for settings in jewelery.

In Hunt's piece of sphene, the translucent gem material shows very little covering of crystal scales. His specimen measures three and a half by two and a half inches and one inch in thickness. Some of the pieces brought to Harvey are larger, Hunt said.

The S. James Neal Collection Goes to the North Museum of Franklin and Marshall College

The fine mineral collection of the late S. James Neal, Mount Joy, Pa., has recently been presented to the North Museum of Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa., by Mrs. Katherine Neal in memory of her husband.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Neal will be pleased to learn of this presentation and to know that Mr. Neal's years of meticulous collecting and exchanging have not been in vain. The Neal Memorial Collection is unusually well labeled and preserved and its many fine specimens are a welcome addition to the accessions of the Department of Mineralogy of the Museum.

L. J. Duersmith, Curator
Department of Mineralogy
North Museum

Geode Industries have another find.

Geode Industries, 106 W. Main St., New London, Iowa, have come up with another interesting find—quartz concretions. One specimen was sent to R&M. It is dark yellow brown in color and has the form of the brass end of a shotgun shell—almost 1 inch in diameter. A very, very odd and most interesting concretion.

"Found in the sand in Jackson County, Iowa, in singles, doubles and triples. Takes about 8 hours to collect 1 dozen good ones." —on label.

Fossil Department

Conducted by Howard V. Hamilton
1340 Crandall Avenue
Salt Lake City 6, Utah

FOSSILS OF YARMOUTH, MAINE

By RUTH H. WENTWORTH
135 Maine Ave., Portland, Maine

One day, in the fall of 1957, a neighborhood boy came to me with a piece of clay full of clam shells which he dug from a sand pit near Yarmouth. Immediately I became interested, as one does not usually find shells in dry sand quarries.

So the next Sunday we drove with him to this sand pit. To get there, we took the Middle Road from Portland to within about 2 miles of Yarmouth. Here we turned to the left on to Greely Road. We followed this road for about a mile, turned to the right and we were there.

The whole area for about ¼ mile on both sides had been turned into numerous sand pits but on the left was the large one with the fossils. We left the car at the rim of the pit and descended the hill to about 35 ft. below.

Here at the back of the pit were the fossil sea shells, all over the ground. There was water in a tiny stream, washing out marine clay and fossil shells. High above were strata of shells in between strata of sand and gravel. There were about 6 layers of shells, I believe. These were inaccessible due to the perpendicular back wall. But we carried home several chunks of clay and several hundreds of washed-out shells.

I dissolved some of this marine clay and found several kinds of shells, single valves only. Among these were:

Saxicava Arctica–Arctic Rock-borer
Mya Arenaria–Steamer Clam
Mya Truncata–Truncated Mya
Balanus–3 varieties of barnacles
Echinarachnius parma–Sand Dollar, 1 piece
Mytilus Edulis–Blue Mussel
Natica Clausa–Northern Moon Shell
Crab leg tips–Too small to identify.

The clam shells were chalky on the outside but retained their luster and traces of color on the inside. The mussels still retained considerable blue and rose-purple color. The specimens were all small, ½ to 1 inch in length except the Myas which were of the same size as of today. These species can be found living along our coast, today.

These fossils are not very old, perhaps 13,000 years, late glacial or late-Pleistocene. At that time, the DeGeer Sea which at first had extended over coastal lowlands of eastern Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine and New Brunswick and even to the foothills of the White Mountains and to the base of Mt. Katadin, was retreating. In shallow waters, sea life was abundant.

Then came the Whittlesey uplift which destroyed Lake Whittlesey of the glacial Great Lakes and also the DeGeer Sea of Maine thus leaving dead sea shells in its wake. In fact, Long Island Sound and all of New England was affected by the Whittlesey land movement.

To avoid confusion, Prof. R.J. Lougee named the DeGeer Sea as such, to differentiate it from the Champlain stage which came later. Due to his studies and surveys of postglacial chronology of eastern North America, this name seemed most appropriate. Baron Gerard

DeGeer of Stockholm studied the evidence of it in a visit to the Maine coast in 1891 and in 1892 published the first "isobase" map of the submergence.

The uplift of land, besides destroying the DeGeer Sea of Maine, caused the shore line to retreat way beyond the present line. All of the big rivers of Maine extended eastward to meet the sea. Some changed their courses. Vegetation took hold. And for a short time in geological history, this land was above the sea.

Then came the Champlain Submergence. This left the DeGeer Sea and all its movements hidden until man with his ability to read the past, delved into geology and found the evidence which places those fossil shells where undoubtedly they were, about 15,000 years ago. They are much older than those found in Montreal and Quebec. They were probably coexistent with those found in Waterville at an elevation of 150 ft., where water at its highest was 365 ft. At the present time the coast line is about 2 miles from the gravel pit, showing that many changes have taken place in a few thousand years.

Needless to say, I was enthralled at the discovery of those fossils and their ages. Because of some initial curiosity, I have added some very interesting specimens to the geological collection and considerable knowledge has been gained of the post-glacial history of Maine.

Authority for Geology—Prof. R.J. Lougee, Clark University, Worcester, Mass.

Needs specimens for teaching!

Editor R&M:

I've just discovered R&M magazine, and to a neophyte at this business, I can't imagine anything more wonderful.

Three years ago, I started teaching natural history in the public schools of Massachusetts for the Massachusetts Audubon Society, and during that time have found a greater curiosity among the youngsters in geology and mineralogy, with the possible exception of reptiles, than any other phase of the natural sciences. This, of course, necessitated a greater knowledge of the subject than I possessed, consequently I enrolled in every geology class in the Boston area that my free time would allow. Now, needless to say, I've got the bug!

Since fair-sized hand specimens of most minerals are best suited to classroom use with these fifth and sixth graders, compiling a collection has been a slow and painful process, and it is meager. I have collected some from the field, purchased a few and been made present of a few from the surplus of generous friends with a similar interest. I'm wondering if any of your subscribers would be willing to share any of their surplus for this purpose. I'd be most willing to pay postage on any that are sent.

David L. Carson
Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary
Nov. 18, 1958 Topsfield, Mass.

Museum needs Arizona Minerals!

Editor R&M:

My wife (Joy) and myself enjoy your magazine very much. George Bideaux, a friend of mine for about 30 years, said it was the best—and he was right. We have taken on the task of getting into shape a collection of minerals for the Arizona Pioneer Historical Society museum here in Tucson. It will contain only Arizona minerals from the old mines and mining districts. At the moment we need just about everything from everywhere but we feel that we can build up a display that will fit in with the other items in the museum. If you can pass the word along that we are interested in donations of Arizona specimens from the old mines, it might help. They can be sent to my office here at the Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 991, in Tucson, Ariz.

Ade Abbott

Wonderful service for subscribers!

Editor R&M:

I wish to express my appreciation to R&M for including my name in the Collector's Corner. I have made many new friends since your last issue came out and exchanged some first-class specimens. This is a wonderful service for subscribers.

Leslie R. Clift, Jr.
N. Main Street
Raynham Center, Mass.

ROCKS AND MINERALS ASSOCIATION
(International)
NOTES & NEWS
Don Presher, Pres. Box 29, Peekskill, N. Y.

Well, folks, here we are facing another bright and shiny new year, and I imagine that quite a few of you have the same thoughts as I, that is planning for trips to new localities and return trips to the old ones. Speaking of return trips, I have found they are invariably more profitable than the first visit. My trouble seems to be that I try to see everything there is and collect everything possible, the result is a lot of everything and not much of anything worthwhile. However on return trips, I arm myself with all possible information as to the species of minerals that are found there, what it should look like, what it probably would be associated with and any other pertinent information that could he of help in finding these specific minerals, then when I make a return visit I concentrate on one or two spots and go over them thoroughly and this has paid off consistently.

These winter months are also the time to rearrange our treasured collections, this always brings to mind the memories of those pleasant days and the exciting moments when we found those choice specimens. I have another angle that helps curb my impatience while waiting for spring to roll around, which I have copied from the squirrels. When out on prospecting trips I pick up interesting looking large chunks of material which are stored away in the garage until winter rules out further trips, then they are brought out, a few at a time and I retire to the basement to break them up and examine them. You might call it prospecting in the cellar but I find it interesting and have several choice specimens to prove it.

I would imagine for those of you who cut and polish as a hobby that these winter months are the most productive. Some day I want to try my hand at this fascinating art but I think that collecting and identification of mineral specimens will be my full time hobby until I at least have some sort of a working knowledge of the subject. At the rate I am going I guess that lapidary will have to wait until some time in the future.

I had the privilege of meeting some of our Association members who were also members of the Hartford Mineral Club when your editor and I paid a visit to the basalt quarry at Plainville, Conn., on Oct. 19th, 1958, when the Hartford club was having a field trip there. I am taking this oportunity to express our thanks and appreciation for the hospitality extended to us. It was evident that this field trip was a success as there was a good turnout and everyone seemed to be busy collecting and enjoying themselves.

I added specimens of prehnite and some nice calcite crystals to my collection from the walls of the quarry and also some fine specimens of tremolite, fluorite and kyanite from the trunk of a car thru the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Anderson of Hartford, Conn. We also accepted their kind invitation to accompany them to the old copper mine at Bristol, Conn. Arriving at the mine we had the privilege of sharing their special spots that they had found to be most productive; here we added specimens of malachite, bornite, sphalarite and chalcopyrite to our loot.

As time has a habit of flying while on these expeditions, we regretfully decided that we had better head for home as we had about 90 miles to go. At this point, however, Mr. Luther Hadsell of Unionville, Conn., who had joined us at Bristol, made the mistake of encouraging us to make a stop at a new locality—a dam under construction at

Thomaston, Conn., and graciously offered to guide us there. (Mr. Hadsell is the proud possessor of an interesting specimen of chalcocite and native copper that he had found at the Bristol mine which gives me something to shoot for on future visits to this locality). We accepted Mr. Hadsell's kind offer and eased our conscience by agreeing that Thomaston was on our route home and it would not take too much time if we stopped for a little while. The beautiful fluorite, galena and stilbite specimens that we brought home from Thomaston more than justified our stop. Our thanks again to the Hartford Mineral Club and a special thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson and to Mr. Hadsell for your hospitality which was largely responsible for that good feeling one has after a highly enjoyable and successful day and which made the miles shorter on the long trip home.

I want to express my thanks for the active interest that you are showing in your Association which is evident by the increasing weight of our mailbag. I have received many encouraging and interesting letters along with requests for membership cards. These letters offer a wealth of material for thought, there are questions asked, suggestions offered, benefits pointed out and sometimes opportunities to help others to further our common interest in mineralogy. Such as the letter received from our fellow member, Mrs. Arlene Handy, who resides at 4391 Comfort Road, Tecumseh, Mich. She writes that her daughter has started a group of pebble pups and she, herself, has organized a group of older children (Junior High School age). They have held their own field trips and have set up a children's mineral exhibit at the local fairgrounds. Evidently the interest in minerals shown by the local citizens is slight, perhaps due to some extent by the area being of a sedimentary nature and a variety of specimens are hard to come by. Mrs. Handy points out that this also rules out the possibility of acquiring the materials needed to encourage and educate these young rock hounds thru the trading medium. She also mentions that at the present she is a grounded rock hound as she has fractured her back.

I feel that I am speaking for our entire Association, Mrs. Handy, when I say that you have my admiration and respect for your determination to do this job despite these adverse conditions, and my best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery. We can be of help in regard to the material needed to carry on this good work and I hope it will start the ball rolling by sending some of the typical rock and mineral specimens from this area (southeastern New York). If any of you good people are of the same mind and have duplicates to spare, I am sure that Mrs. Handy will put them to good use if you would send them to the address above.

A letter received from one of our senior member, Lorne Berzley, who also hails from the state of Michigan, points out that his membership card has been very helpful in securing collecting privileges and has been given respect and consideration when transacting business with mineral dealers. It is encouraging to receive letters of this nature and they lead me to wonder, are we all taking full advantage of our membership in the Association? If not, let's do so.

Leo Miller of New York State, writes that he will never forget the help and generosity of a fellow member which he feels was the greatest factor that led to the pleasure and enjoyment he has had from his mineral collecting. He goes on to say that many of his specimens have been acquired thru exchanges and he asks, Why don't more members take advantage of the Collectors Corner in our magazine? In his opinion we could enrich ourselves by making new friends and add to our collections by exchanging minerals thru this department. This sure is food for thought. The Collectors Corner of our magazine is a service to you that lists your name and address for the purpose of corresponding and/or the exchange of specimens with your fellow members. Perhaps we are not taking full advantage of this service.

I am happy to announce the inaugura-

tion of a new service offered to the members of the Rocks and Minerals Association. The Association believes that the identification of minerals is the most difficult and discouraging stumbling block in the path of the less experienced collector and without the help of the more experienced, this may seem unsurmountable. With this thought in mind the Association is offering a mineral identification service.

There are several rules to follow if you wish to make use of this service and they should be followed as closely as possible in order to achieve the best results. Let us assume that you have been on an outing and have picked up a half-dozen minerals that you cannot identify or you are not sure of your identification. 1. Clean all material as thoroughly as possible. 2. All specimens sent for identification should be at least 1" x 1" (crystals may have to be smaller in some cases). 3. Assign a number to each specimen and set aside a duplicate with a corresponding number. This duplicate will be held by you to eliminate the possibility of error or misinformation as NO MATERIAL CAN BE RETURNED. 4. Wrap each numbered piece separately and include all information possible, such as exact location, type of terrain, what it is associated with if possible and any other information that may be of help to us. 5. Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope for reply.

This service is offered with the hope that it may be of help to you. If we can be of service in this way please feel free to send us those items that puzzle you and we will do our best to accommodate you. Send all material and correspondence relative to this program to this address, Don Presher, Box 148, Montrose, New York, U.S.A.

I want to thank all, for the response and the interest shown in our Association and hope that it will increase as time goes on. We have something in common that is clean, healthy and wholesome. Let us make the most of it. Last, but not least, I wish you and yours the best new year ever and happy hunting this season.

Please send a self-addressed stamped envelope when applying for membership card.

Local collector in Bancroft, Ont., Canada, area.

In the Bancroft, Ontario, Canada, area we have had no luck finding a local collector who has supplies of minerals to sell or swap, until last fall.

Mr. Sandy Sutherland, Birds Creek Post Office, Ontario, has quite a stockpile of local minerals and seems to have the knowledge necessary to find whatever a visiting collector might want.

To reach Mr. Sutherland's farm by car, take the Hybla road going east from Route 62 north of Bancroft. Keep left all the way to Hybla railroad station. Continue on this road past Hybla to a "T." Turn right, then, almost immediately, turn left. Mr. Sutherland lives on the farm next to the road, about 2 farms past the left turn, counting the one on the corner. His farm is just this side of a church and graveyard.

Harriette Schoppee
9 Greenbrier St.
Springfield 8, Mass.

New "Mineralights, Rocks and Rainbows" folder tells story of fluorescent minerals

A helpful, comprehensive "thumbnail review" of fluorescent mineral science and equipment has been issued by Ultra-Violet Products, Inc. The 8 page booklet is available free of charge to hobbyists, prospectors, collectors and educators.

Highlight of the booklet is a section containing answers to the "32 most-asked questions on fluorescent minerals." The discussion ranges from "What is fluorescence?" and "Where do I find fluorescent minerals?", to detailed hints on identification of uranium ores and rare earths. Further hints on selection of ultra-violet lamps and accessories are discussed in the Equipment Guide Section. Suggestions are given on use of the MINERALIGHT lamps for prospecting and display.

To obtain the free booklet, write Ultra-Violet Products, Inc., San Gabriel, California.

RARE HEMATITE OCCURRENCE . . . ARIZONA

By R.A. RICHARDS
Box 44, Morristown, Ariz.

Arizona produces some odd and unusual mineral specimens. After collecting minerals over a long period of time, I believe some of the most odd specimens I have ever seen has been an Arizona specimen. With the thought that some may be interested, will try to give directions to a location of pyritohedral hematite (rarest xl form of hematite, I believe). Taking Wickenburg, Arizona (Hiway 60-70-89) as starting point, take dirt road to Constellation. This road takes off paved hiway at a point just east of the Hassayampa River bridge in Wickenburg. First part of this side road will be very very crooked. Don't let this discourage you. Balance of it will be same! It is rough, and shoulders are not to be trusted. Farther you go, rougher, steeper, and more crooked it will become! If you still want to go, follow thru to first main fork of roads. Turning to your right, at the forks, you will go down a long grade. At bottom of grade dim road will take off to the left (over Groom Hill). Don't take this road, no matter what make of car you may have! Keep on the main road, which goes to Lincoln Mine. After starting to climb back out of low point, you will, very shortly, come to a small cattle guard in the road. This cattle guard is very small, only a few feet across. Park car immediately after crossing this cattle guard, and walk to the northeast; this will be over your left shoulder if you face towards direction you have been going, on road. You will see a barb wire fence not far away. After crossing thru this fence, a rather large hill may be seen, sharply to your left. Along this hill, about half way down the eastern slope, will be found the outcropping of oxidized iron, which carries the xled hematite.

By turning to right, and following the ridge-like hills, just below you from iron deposit, you will find one location where you may pick up bright blue, marble-like specimens of azurite (copper carbonate). These will be on or at mouth of a very old mine shaft which has been covered over with plank.

A special word of warning about this ridge country—beware of old shafts which are scattered all thru this area. You can, very easily, walk right off into one of these if not very careful as they are often so overgrown with vegetation as to be most difficult to locate. Many go straight down thru solid rock for a hundred feet or more, with water at the bottom. If you will look east, down into the canyon country, at bottom of the hill you are on, you will see an old house, site of a one-time sheep camp. By following the road past this place, on into the rather narrow canyon, southwards, you may find very bright specimens of another iron oxide (specular iron) scattered over the surface of rock, showing as very bright glittering black xls.

It is well to watch out for range cattle in this area as they may be rather unfriendly to 'Rockhounds'! To the north, some three miles, and at a somewhat lower level, the old Groom Mine is located. This is an old Territorial mine—has not been worked for many years. Sections of diamond drill cores may be found here, as well as colorful copper ore specimens. However, there is no road into this mine site, except the one over Groom Hill, which I mentioned earlier. Do not attemp to drive into this location, unless you have a four wheel drive. There are many old mines thru this area, mostly closed down for many years. Going back to the cross roads, and taking the other branch, you will encounter many more old workings, most of which have also been closed down for many years. One still showing signs of activity is the Monte Cristo. All this country is very rough with steep grades, so due caution should be exercised at all times.

CURRENT EVENTS

of the

EASTERN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND LAPIDARY SOCIETIES

PRESIDENT
Mrs. Elsie Kane White
3418 Flannery Lane
Baltimore 7, Md.

VICE-PRESIDENT
Dr. George F. Size
Box 236
Murphy, N.C.

TREASURER
Sam Brown
40 Northview Ave.
Upper Montclair, N.J.

SECRETARY
Roy E. Clark
Box 607
Newport News, Va.

The newly elected officers of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies are President, Mrs. Elsie Kane White, of the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore, Md.; Vice-President, Dr. George F. Size, of Murphy, N.C., of the Southern Appalachian Mineral Society and the Tri-State Rockhounders; Secretary, Roy E. Clark, of Newport News, Va., of the Gem and Mineral Society of the Virginia Peninsula. Sam Brown, of Upper Montclair, N.J., President of the Newark Lapidary

Newly elected officers of the Eastern Federation: left to right, Dr. George F. Size, Vice President; Mrs. Elsie Kane White, President; and Roy E. Clark, Secretary.

Society, is serving a second term as Treasurer.

The following committee chairmen have been appointed to date:

Auto Emblems: Dr. George F. Size, Box 236, Murphy, N.C.

Editor: Mrs. Elsie Kane White, 3418 Flannery Lane, Baltimore 7, Md.

Education & Program Aids: Mrs. Marguerite R. Collyer, *"Kilravock,"* West Nyack, N.Y.

Historian: Miss Florence M. Hight, 72 Atlantic Ave., Long Branch, New Jersey

Junior Activities: A.C. Banks, 601 Santurce, Coral Gables, Florida

Membership: Henry B. Graves, 3153 N.W. 27th St., Miami 42, Florida.

Parliamentarian (Constitution & By-Laws): Mrs. Etta Rasch Davison, 3922 Cloverhill Road, Baltimore 18, Md.

Nominating Committee: Henry B. Graves, Chairman, W. Everett Berry, L.J. Pursifull, John M. Wise, Gavin Taylor

House Organ (Special): E. J. Talamini, 164 Chestnut St., Kearny, N.J., and Sam Brown, 40 Northview Ave., Upper Montclair, N.J.

Asheville Show

The 8th annual meeting and show of the Eastern Federation held on August 7, 8 and 9th, 1958, in Asheville, N.C., is a thing of the past; but it will be long remembered by the 10 to 15 thousand persons attending.

Special feature exhibits included the Refford Cate jade collection of 75 priceless pieces; gemstones in plastic by F. E. Smith, Attleboro, Mass.; oddities in the rock work by John M. Wise of Baltimore, Md.; man-made diamonds of the General Electric Corporation; industrial diamond crystals of A. G. Parser, Inc., of New York City; Stardust jewelry from outer space, American Meteorite Museum of Sedona, Arizona; Dr. Forster Sondley collection of North Carolina gemstones; faceted gemstones by Harry Howard of Greenville, South Carolina; North Carolina corundum, cut and uncut, by Dr. Charles Hurah; the Hewitt Memorial collection by the Southern Appalachian Mineral Society, host club; and a working demonstration of cabochon cutting by the Smoky Mountain Lapidary Guild.

Some of the 50-odd competitive exhibits at the Eastern Federation Show in Asheville, N.C., last August are seen in the foreground here. Forty commercial booths were located in the center and around the edges of the auditorium.

Of especial interest was a special collection of the finest mineral specimens ever found in North Carolina. These specimens, gathered by the host club from collectors all over the state, were under glass. At the rear of the booth was a large map of the state. Visitors could push electric buttons by various mineral labels, and lights would show on the map, indicating where those minerals might be found.

The show opened to a capacity crowd on Thursday, August 7, with State Geologist Jasper L. Stuckey and Asheville Mayor Earl E. Eller breaking a stone at the entrance instead of the conventional ribbon cutting.

Dr. Stuckey also spoke that afternoon on "Geology and Mineral Resources of North Carolina". Dr. A.S. Furcron, Georgia Chief Geologist, spoke on "Mineral Locations in Northern Georgia".

Dr. James A. Ray spoke on the "Minerals of the Crabtree Creek Area".

The annual banquet was held on Friday, August 8th, in the Ballroom of the George Vanderbilt Hotel. Convention Chairman, Robert R. Williams, Jr., welcomed the officers, delegates and guests. Trophies for the best of show awards were presented, and framed membership certificates to the societies elected to membership during the year. Gilbert W. Withers, of Atlanta, Ga., spoke on "Collecting Gem Stones in Brazil and Spain."

On August 9, Louis Perloff, Winston-Salem, N.C., spoke on "Introduction to Micromounting", followed by Dr. Leon Goldman, Cincinnati, Ohio, who spoke on "Some Few Potential Health Hazards in Lapidary Work and Their Prevention". In the afternoon, Refford Cate spoke on "3,000 years of Chinese Jade".

An informal field trip cabaret was a feature of Saturday evening. Organized field trips were held each day from August 16-17, with between 400 and 500 persons participating in the trips to outstanding North Carolina mineral locations.

Throughout the show, the lobby of the headquarters hotel was converted into a

This photograph is typical of the large crowds attending the Eastern Federation Show in Asheville, N.C., last August. The ROCKS AND MINERALS booth is at right. (Z is Zodac and M is Marion Boyle, his assistant and cousin.) Extreme left is the booth of Scott Williams (W) of Scottsdale, Ariz.

mineral swap shop which proved highly popular to many attending the convention and show.

Members of the Southern Appalachian Mineral Society who headed up the main convention committee included Robert R. Williams, Jr., as General Chairman; Robert A. Campbell, co-chairman; George Stahl, treasurer; Fred M. Allen, Jr., President of the host society, publicity and advertising;

"Best of Show" in the mineral division at the Eastern Federation Show in Asheville, N.C., was won by Mrs. Fred Allen, of Lincolnton, N.C., shown here with her double-tent display of some 65 different inclusions in mica.

Gerald Medd, commercial displays; William C. Whitehouse, Competitive exhibits; Dr. James Parker and William E. Merritt, specal exhibits; Mrs. R. R. Williams, Jr., and Mrs. William C. Whitehouse, general arrangements; Otis R. Lugar, field trips; Dr. Martin Wadewitz, speakers; Miss Martina Wadewitz program; William D. Turner, Housing chairman.

—Fred M. Allen, Jr.

Winners of the Eastern Federation Show at Asheville, N.C., for 1958

TROPHIES

Mineral Division

Best in Show Trophy:Mrs. Fred M. Allen, Jr., Lincolnton, N.C.
2nd Place Trophy—Newark Mineralogical Society, Inc.
3rd Place Trophy—Clarence Wilson, Bakersville, N.C.

Lapidary Division

Best in Show Trophy—Newark Lapidary Society
2nd Place Trophy—W. E. Merritt, Jr., Mt. Airy, N.C.
3rd Place Trophy—Edward A. Geisler, Baltimore 12, Md.
John M. Wise Membership Participation Trophy—Miami Mineral and Gem Society

CLUB—Mineral Division

Cabinet Specimens (General)—1st: Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia
2nd: Newark Mineralogical Society, Inc.
3rd: Western South Carolina Gem and Mineral Society
Ctf. of Merit: Smoky Mountain Lapidary Guild, N.C. Gem & Mineral Society of Virginia Peninsula, Tri-State Rockhounders, Georgia Mineral Society
Crystals (Single or Twin)—1st: Western South Carolina Gem and Mineral Society
2nd: Gem and Mineral Society of the Virginia Peninsula
Ctf. of Merit: Tri-State Rockhounders, N.C.
One-Locality Groups—1st: North Jersey Mineralogical Society
2nd: Georgia Mineral Society
Ctf. of Merit: Newark Mineralogical Society, Inc.
Oddities—1st: Gem and Mineral Society of the Virginia Peninsula
Ctf. of Merit: Tri-State Rockhounders

CLUB—Lapidary Division

Cabochons & Baroques:—1st: Newark Lapidary Society
2nd: Gem and Mineral Society of the Virginia Peninsula
3rd: Gem and Lapidary Society of Washington, D.C.
Ctf. of Merit: Tuscarora Lapidary Society, Pa., Smoky Mountain Lapidary Guild, Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore, Georgia Mineral Society, Gemcrafters of Miami and Western South Carolina Gem & Mineral Society
Faceted Stones—1st: Newark Lapidary Society
2nd: Gem and Lapidary Society of Washington D.C.
3rd: Gemcrafters of Miami
Ctf. of Merit: Gem and Mineral Society of the Virginia Peninsula, Georgia Mineral Society and Western South Carolina Gem and Mineral Society
Hand-Made Jewelry and Mounted Stones—1st: Newark Lapidary Society
2nd: Gem & Mineral Society of Virginia Peninsula
3rd: Tuscarora Lapidary Society, Pa.
Ctf. of Merit: Gem & Lapidary Society of Wash., DC. (2) and Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore
Polished Slabs— 1st: Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore
2nd: Gem and Mineral Society of the Virginia Peninsula
3rd: Gemcrafters of Miami
Ctf. of Merit: Newark Lapidary Society & Western South Carolina Gem and Mineral Society
Geode Sections (Polished)— 1st: Gemcrafters of Miami
2nd: Western South Carolina Gem & Mineral Society
Spheres—:1st: Newark Lapidary Society
Book Ends, Desk Sets, etc.—1st: Gem & Lapidary Society of Washington, D.C.
2nd: Western South Carolina Gem & Mineral Society
Ctf. of Merit: Gem and Lapidary Society of Wash., D.C.

INDEPENDENT—Mineral Division

Cabinet Specimens (General)—1st: Dr. George F. Size, Murphy, N.C.
2nd: Mildred R. Martin, Richmond, Va.
3rd: Clarence W. Ballard, Asheville, N.C.
Ctf. of Merit: Clarence W. Ballard for 2nd entry, Fred O. Scroggs, Brasstown, N.C. and Mr. & Mrs. C. B. Barnett, Canton, N.C.

Crystals (Single or Twin)—1st: Mrs. Mercedes K. Halsey, Warwick, Va.
2nd: Mrs. Mary Louise Hunt, Hampton, Va.
3rd: Robert A. Campbell, Asheville, N.C.

Family Groups—1st: Mrs. Fred M. Allen, Jr., Lincolnton, N.C.
2nd: William C. Whitehouse, Asheville, N.C.
3rd: Robert A. Campbell, Asheville, N.C.

One-Locality Groups—1st: Miss Martina Wadewitz, Asheville, N.C.
2nd: Clarence Wilson, Bakersville, N.C.
3rd: Mrs. Robert R. Williams, Jr., Asheville, N.C.
Ctf. of Merit: Mr. & Mrs. George Stahl, Weaverville, N.C., Mrs. Kay Whitehouse, Asheville, N.C.

Thumbnail Specimens (Approx. 1" x 1")—1st: Miss Martina Wadewitz, Asheville, N.C.
2nd: Mrs. George F. Size, Murphy, N.C.

INDEPENDENT—Lapidary Division

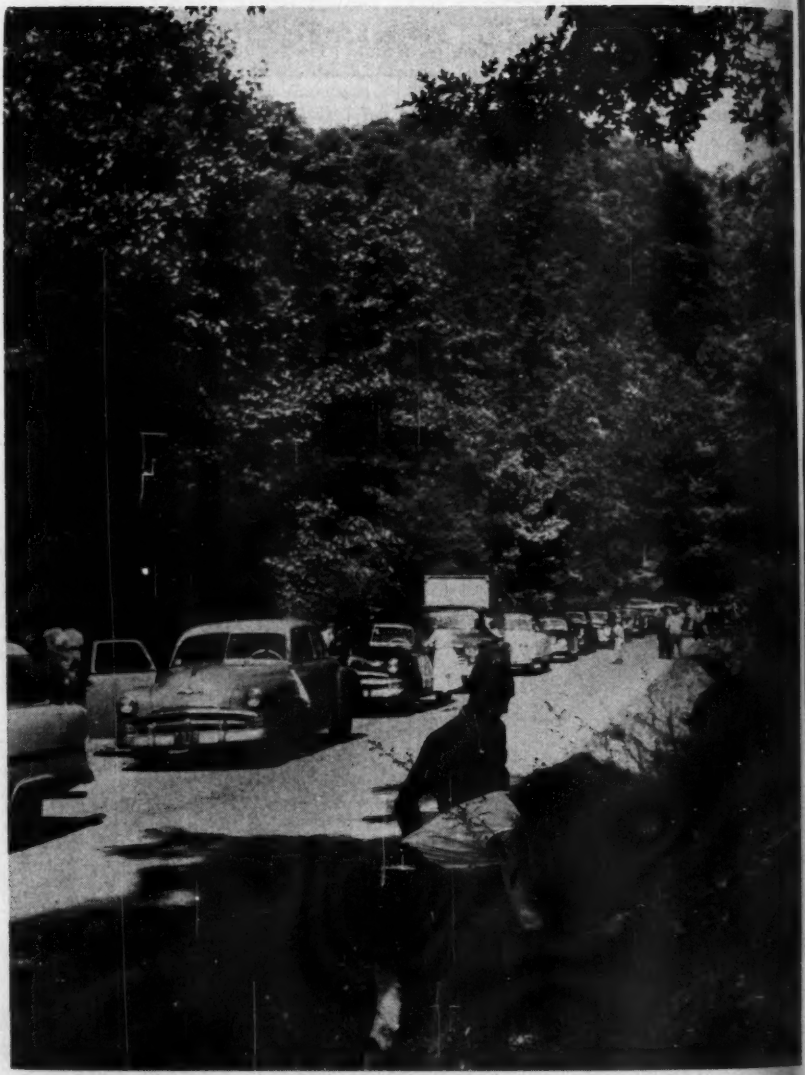
Cabochons & Baroques—1st: (Tied) W.E. Merritt, Jr., Mt. Airy, N.C. and Mrs. Hilda Chance, Linwood, Pa.
2nd: (Tied) Edgar A. Wengerd, Baltimore 22, Md., and Miss Catherine Muffoletto, Baltimore 18, Md.
3rd: Theodore A. Schultz, Washington, D.C.
Ctf. of Merit: Dr. George F. Size, Murphy, N.C., Mr & Mrs William M. Crosby, Baltimore 16, Md., W.R. Matheson, Andrews, N.C., Fred O. Scroggs, Brasstown, N.C., and Mr. & Mrs A.E. Lyall, Linwood, Pa.

Faceted Stones—1st: W.E. Merritt, Jr., Mt. Airy, N.C.
2nd: Dr. George F. Size, Murphy, N.C.

Hand-Made Jewelry with Mounted Stones—1st: Edward A. Geisler, Baltimore, Md.
2nd: Mrs. Hilda Chance, Linwood, Pa.
3rd: Olga Van Kirk, Miami, Fla.

North Carolina Travel Bureau Photo

A view of the McKinney feldspar mine, Crabtree, Mitchell Co., N.C., during the Eastern Federation field trip on Aug. 10, 1958. Samarskite, hyalite, beryl, amazonite, mica and a host of other minerals of the pegmatites of the Mitchell-Yancey area were collected here and at the nearby #20 mine visited on the same date.



Eight days of mineral collecting in Western North Carolina followed the meeting of the Eastern Federation of Mineral Societies in Asheville, N.C., Aug. 7-9, 1958. On some of the trips as many as 300 rockhounds were in the auto caravan to choice hunting grounds in various sections of the North Carolina mountains.

While the motorcades were forming, and whenever they stopped en route to a collecting area, eager rockhounds investigated roadsides for possible finds. A part of the motorcade to the McKinney feldspar mine in Mitchell County is shown here.

Book-Ends, Desk Sets, etc.—1st: Mrs. Margaret S. Harley, Miami, 47, Fla.

2nd: Edgar A. Wengerd, Baltimore 22, Md.

3rd: Mrs. John J. Tamburri, Morganville, N.J.

Clf. of Merit: Mrs. John J. Tamburri, second entry; and Miss Martina Wadewitz, Asheville, N.C.

CLUB MEMBER—Mineral Division

Micromounts—1st: Paul Yaffe, Baltimore 7, Md. Baltimore Mineral Society

2nd: Brian McMullin, Timonium, Md. Baltimore Mineral Society

Clf. of Merit: Michal W. Swanson, Ruxton, 4, Md., Baltimore Mineral Society; John F. Jedlicka, Baltimore 24, Md., Baltimore Mineral Society

CLUB MEMBER—Lapidary Division

Cabochons & Baroques—1st: W.L. Hammons, Miami, Fla.

2nd: J.B. Winter, Miami, Fla.

Faceted Stones—1st: Robert M. Hatch, Cocoa Beach, Fla.

2nd: W.L. Hammons, Miami, Fla.

Hand-Made Jewelry with Mounted Stones—1st: Irena Pool, Miami, Fla.

2nd: W.L. Hammons, Miami, Fla.

FEDERATION SHOW DATES FOR 1959

Rocky Mountain Federation—
April 24, 25 & 26, 1959—Wichita, Kansas

Texas Federation—
May 1, 2 & 3, 1959—McAllen, Texas

Midwest Federation—
June 18-21, 1959—Springfield, Ohio

California Federation—
June 26-29, 1959—San Mateo, California

Eastern Federation—
(Dates not confirmed)—Boston, Mass.

Northwest Federation with American Federation—
Sept. 5, 6 & 7, 1959—Portland, Oregon

North Carolina Travel Bureau Photo

At the Little Pine garnet mine in Madison County, N.C., mine dumps and stream beds—as well as the interior of the old mine—yielded almandite garnets, some of gem quality.

WILLIAM B. AITKEN

The Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies suffered a great loss in the passing of William B. Aitken, its second President (1952-1953) and one of its Advisory Council members, who died suddenly on Wednesday, October 29, 1958. Well known and beloved in Federation affairs since its beginning, Bill Aitken was one of its staunchest supporters and active leaders. President of the Rockland County Gem and Mineral Society, of Spring Valley, New York, he was currently serving on its Board of Directors. Mr. and Mrs. Aitken had just moved to a new home at 229 Knickerbocker Avenue, in Hillsdale, New Jersey. An ardent "rockhound," he and Mrs. Aitken attended the Earth Science and Gem Show of the Mineralogical Society of Pennsylvania on October 25, the weekend before his death. He will be greatly missed.

Mineralogical Society of Pennsylvania

The Fourth Biennial Earth Science and Gem Show of the Mineralogical Society of Pennsylvania was held in Doylestown, Pa., on October 25 and 26, 1958. While it rained both days of the show, this failed to dampen the ardor of those attending, who came from far and near. Many remained overnight for the two-day show.

Lecturers included Paul Desautels, Associate Curator, Division of Mineralogy and Petrology, Smithsonian Institute, who spoke on "Micro-Minerals"; Captain John Sinkankas who spoke on the Pegmatites of San Diego County, California, and showed colored slides taken in this region; and Dr. Erling Dorf, Professor of Geology, Princeton University and Wagner Institute, who spoke on "What We Learn of the Climate of the Past from Fossils".

There were outstanding displays of members, in competition, in both the lapidary and mineral divisions. Dealers had many fascinating offerings.

Special exhibits listed on their program included Minerals from the Crestmore Quarry of Riverside, California, exhibited by David A. Burgess, of San Bernardino, California. It is reported that as of 1948, 112 species had been listed and identified from this quarry. Frank Hankins of Collegeville, Pa., exhibited a rare collection of fossil nuts, fruits and seeds from the John Day River District in central Oregon. Ancient fossil nuts, fruits and seeds are said to be found there, together with limbs and leaves of the trees on which they grew, all literally turned to stone. There was the Cornwall Suite, through the courtesy of the Bethlehem Steel Company, consisting of minerals from the Cornwall Mine, with a brief history of the mine and pictures of the operation, prepared by Leighton Donley and Robert Peets.

There was a Swedish Bridal Crown made by the silversmith Solve Hallquist, loaned by his sister, Mrs. Alan Lake Rice. The crown is silver, ornamented with turquoise, pearls and garnets. These bridal crowns are heirloom treasures of Swedish families and frequently of Swedish churches. There was an exhibit of Radioactive Minerals of New Jersey, courtesy of the New Jersey Geological Survey, arranged by Franc J. Markewicz, Principal Geologist; a Chester County Suite, from the Wagner Free Institute of Science, of Philadelphia; Sophisticated Bookends by courtesy of Frank Zimmerman, of Payette, Idaho; Rock Sculpture by George Papashvily; Excerpts from the fabulous Sommerville Collection, by courtesy of the University Museum of Philadelphia; Tourmalines from Pennsylvania State University, arranged by David Snell, Curator of Minerals; Synthetic Gem Stones from Pennsylvania State University, arranged by David Snell; the B.F. Shepard presentation of polished spheres, and Rare Specimens from the Bement Collection of classic Pennsylvania Mineral localities, by courtesy of Dr. Brian Mason, Curator of Mineralogy, American Museum of Natural History, New York City.

It was a very excellent show.

Pine Tree Gem and Mineral Association

The Pine Tree Gem and Mineral Association, of Maine, hosted a very successful Rockhound Roundup last July, their second annual club event. They invited rockhounds to join them for a weekend of rock hunting, including the climbing of several mountains, with guides, to hunt tourmaline, lepidolite, columbite, spodumene, triphyllite, purpurite, vivianite, cleavelandite, beryl, quartz xls, pink granite and numerous other rare minerals, and do some gold panning in the Swift River. Those who attended report a grand time, in spite of the inclement weather, which resulted in the setting up of swapping tables indoors in the local grange hall.

This society's latest news is the preparation of a case of fossils and Indian artifacts, for presentation to a new local school. Any one who might like to contribute some extra pieces should send them to their active secretary, Miss Freda Thomas, Roxbury, Maine. Miss Thomas states that a box of shark's teeth collected along the shores of the Chesapeake Bay, contributed by the Fred Mahns of Baltimore, are the first some of them have seen.

Gemcrafters of Miami, Florida

Latest news from this society reported them busy with producing jewelry of all types for their Gem Crafters Booth in the big Miami Home Show being held in the Municipal Auditorium for one week the middle of November. These shows are reported to have over 200,000 people in attendance.

Newark Lapidary Society Celebrates 10th Year

The Newark Lapidary Society celebrated its tenth anniversary with a banquet on Sunday evening, November 9, at the Irvington House, in Irvington, New Jersey.

Guests of honor were the former presidents of the club, with the very first president and his wife at the head table. Also a guest was Mrs. Elsie Kane White, of Baltimore, Md., President of the Eastern Federation, who congratulated this charter member society of the Federation on its fine performances throughout the years, and on the winning of the top award, Best in Show Trophy in the Lapidary Division, at the 8th annual convention of the federation at Asheville in August. This display also won the largest number of blue ribbons at the show.

This trophy was on view at the banquet, gracing a display of some of their fine gem cutting and jewelry making.

President Sam Brown, who is also Treasurer of the Federation, presided. Other guests included Mr. E.J. Talamini, President of the Newark Mineralogical Society, and Louis Eaton Shaw, former president, both former Federation officers.

There were gifts and souvenirs for all, including tumbled stones, and kits of capped stones and jump rings for bracelets. Mrs. White was presented a hand turned gavel with engraved plate on it commemorating the event, in addition to orchids.

It was a very fine affair. Many more years of success to this fine society.

Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia

Mineral Minutes of this society reports Fred Swanson, metallurgist with our Federal Government's Bureau of Mines as their October speaker, his subject being "Titanium Mineral Recovery Practices in the United States." Field trip in October was to Franklin, New Jersey, where they report rock hunting part of the time to the accompaniment of good, live band music. The County firemen were parading in town that afternoon, the parade route encompassing the dump. These field trippers had lunch on Sunday of that weekend with Gerry and Will Shulman at Livingston, N.J., who surprised them with an additional field trip with the Pennsylvania Society to Summit, N.J. They report some fine new specimens added to collections. For November they planned a joint field trip to a new location with the Gem and Lapidary Society of Washington, D.C.

Gem and Lapidary Society of Washington, D.C.

This society planned an exhibit for October in autumn colors, calling for jasper and carnelian in red, yellow and green; tiger-eye, unakite, binghamite silkstone and williamsite; and the birthstone for October, beryl, including aquamarine, emerald, morganite and gold, all colors of tourmaline and opal.

Capt. John Sinkankas, U.S.N., was scheduled, according to their *Dopstick*, to talk on his recent trip to Europe, including his impressions of the Brussels World Fair and his tour of the gem section of London.

A one hundred mile trip was planned for October to Hanover County, Virginia, to hunt moonstone, amazonite, kyanite blades and garnets.

Rockland County Mineral and Gem Society

Rockland Nuggets of this New York society reported a field trip the middle of October to Hardystone, New Jersey, to hunt native copper, chalcopyrite, titanite, blue apatite, purple fluorite, and scapolite in an old quarry.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Burnham, of Upper Montclair, New Jersey, members of the Newark Lapidary Society, who recently returned from a four-month tour of the world, not only to see the world, but to "field trip", spoke at the Sept. meeting on this trip around the world. Their talk was entitled "Gems and Paradise," and was illustrated by pictures. Described as breath-taking, the trip started from New York west to San Francisco; then to Hawaii; the Fiji Islands, and arriving on the Island of Samoa on their national feast day. Gold mining is carried on here where the Burnhams visited the open pit mine of Toca and the Morgan

mine where they mine by the cyanamide process. In New Zealand they saw some of the finest opals the earth gives, as well as in Australia. In Bali, they visited the palace of a former ruler where they saw some beautiful silver and bone carvings, some of these pieces over 3000 years old. The walls of the palace were made of mosaics of carnelian; lapis-lazuli, encrusted with rubies and diamonds. They also saw a fabulous large palace carpet encrusted with gems of all kinds. In Bangkok they saw its gem encrusted temples and the gems and costumes worn by the Balinese temple dancers. They saw the white marble of the Taj Mahal. In Italy they saw the palaces in Florence, there again the mosaics were outstanding, some going back to the 6th century, made out of very small pieces of colored stones, glass, marble, ceramics into beautiful murals, preserving the history and beautiful architectural designs. Rome was described as a monument to man's achievement as he worked in stone. They saw the Crown jewels in the tower of London. These were some of the highlights of their trip, and they showed some of the beautiful souvenir gems and jewelry brought back with them.

Baltimore Mineral Society

Paul Desautels, Associate Curator, Department of Mineralogy and Petrology, Smithsonian Institute, was scheduled to speak to the Baltimore Mineral Society in November on silicates.

One of the projects of this society is the preparation of educational slide programs. The first one is entitled Introduction to Micro-Mounting, and includes slides of micro-minerals owned by its members, photographed in color through a microscope. Its photography is outstanding, and it is declared one of the finest and most beautiful collection of micro-minerals ever seen by some of its viewing societies.

The second program, recently completed, is entitled Introduction to Elementary Crystallography, and had its premiere showing at their Micro-Mount Symposium in September.

Horace Greene, chairman of this program project, stated it takes about six months to prepare one of these programs, and that they are now planning a third, to be on the Isometric System.

Brian McMullen is the artist working on the programs and Charles Strobel is the photographer; both members of the club.

The society has a duplicate set of these slide programs, which are available on loan to other societies. Harold Levey, Librarian, 5023 Pimlico Road, Baltimore 15, Md. is in charge of loaning.

Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore

Colored slides of the Asheville Convention taken by Clinton C. Davison and Miss Catherine Muffoletto, including shots of the show exhibits and photographs taken on the various field trips in North Carolina, were shown at the October meeting of the Guild, as well as photos taken of the Rockhound Roundup of the Pine Tree Gem and Mineral Society, in Maine, by Glenn Adriance, and pictures taken on a Montana agate hunt of Clint Davison, Carl Fredrickson and Edward Geisler. In November the club was the guest of the Frank Hansens and William Grosbys, who held open house in the Auditorium of the Roosevelt Park Recreation Centre. There was a Trading Post for members to trade their "best" pieces, and a Swapping Table for swapping less valuable specimens. Refreshments were served by the hostesses. It was a wonderful party with about 85 members present. A full house.

Field trip in October was a two-day affair to Madison County, Virginia, to hunt unakite and "Pikes Peak" epidote. A goodly supply was collected of rocks, as well as of some of those wonderful apples from the Graves farm. In November, which might be the last for the season, depending on the weather, a trip to Cecil County, Maryland, for williamsite was held on Sunday the 16th. Not as plentiful as it once was in this area, members came home with a few nice pieces.

In December, John M. Wise was scheduled to talk on cutting and polishing gemstones by hand, and expected each member to finish polishing a stone during his talk. He is providing the material on which they are to work.

Notice To All Eastern Federation Member Clubs

ROCKS AND MINERALS is now the official Voice of the Eastern Federation and will carry our Current Event news. All news items from Eastern Federation member clubs is to be sent your Current Events editor, Mrs. Elsie Kane White, 3418 Flannery Lane, Baltimore 7, Md. Be sure to send your news to reach her by the 15th of the month 6 weeks prior to publication month date of ROCKS AND MINERALS. For example, all news for the March-April issue should be in her hands prior to February 15. Do not send it direct to ROCKS AND MINERALS, as it will have to be resent to your editor, which might cause some delay and it might not be received in time for publication.

Club and Society Notes

Attention Secretaries—Please submit neat copies. Give dates and places of meetings. Check names for correct spelling.

New Jersey

Franklin Mineralogical Association
First Annual Report

With the close of its first year, the Association presented the publication—the Franklin Mineral Digest. Copies of the Digest are available at one dollar each. Included in the Digest is the first reprinting of Palache, long considered the "bible" of the Franklin mineral collector. Also there is an article discussing all the known fluorescent minerals of the district; plus an article describing the common crystallized minerals of the Parker and Buckwheat dumps at Franklin, N.J. An article, the first of a series, describes a number of new minerals that have recently been identified as new varieties for the district.

The success of the Association's first year have left certain obligations outstanding:

Paramount to the membership growth of the Association has been Peter Zodac's donation of space in ROCKS AND MINERALS Magazine, such space given to announcements of activities of the Association, its objectives and principles. Without his interest and support, there would have been no FMA.

Sunny Cook for her ceaseless and indefatigable efforts has won for herself a special place in the mind and heart of the Association. Her contributions of mineralogical information to the Association have been considerable. Much new information, especially helpful to the amateur Franklin collectors (included in the Digest) is credited to her.

Edwin S. Terres is congratulated for his volunteer efforts in making available to the Association reproduction processes for duplication of the publications in the circulating library. His contribution has advanced by several years the objectives of the Association.

Harold Kohn has been instrumental in developing a mineral exchange program for the benefit of Association members. Again another example of voluntary assistance within the Association.

Kenneth Fisher and Louis H. Roth both contributed of their time and efforts in making available information of interest to the membership. Again my thanks.

To Olive Delaney, L. Everett Anderson, Donald Hoff and several others, my thanks for their personal efforts in attracting new members to the association. Also my thanks go out to the many members for their efforts which may not have readily come to my attention.

To the many people both within and outside the frame work of the Association, my thanks for their sympathetic understanding and appreciation for the objectives and principles of the Association.

Memberships are being accepted for the coming year. Membership is two dollars per year. Benefits in the Association include among other things—receiving the Digest; a membership card identifying you with the Association; access to the circulating library maintained by the FMA; mineral exchange with other Franklin collectors; a mineral identification service.

Membership dues should be sent ($2.00) to the secretary-treasurer.

Gerald Navratil, Sec.-Treas.
Box #70, RFD #2
Middleburg, N.Y.

Illinois

Des Plaines Valley Geological Society

The Des Plaines Valley Geological Society held its Charter Member meeting October 16, 1958 in the Rand Park Field House, Des Plaines, Ill. Our meetings will be the third Thursday of each month at 8:00 P.M. in the same location. There were 78 present at this meeting with 58 joining as Charter Members. The officers elected are: Howard Taylor, Pres.—Robert Simonson, Vice Pres.—Levi Sherman, 2nd Vice Pres.—Florence Swan, Rec. Sec.—Edith Schwendemann, Corres. Sec.—Harvey Wartenberg, Treas.—Dorothy Taylor, Publicity.

Last Spring an evening class met for a course on ROCKS AND MINERALS at the Maine Township High School in Park Ridge, Ill. The instructor was Mr. Simonson, now Vice Pres. of the Society. The course proved so interesting and informative that the members decided to continue meeting and form a society. As you can see from our Charter Member meeting, we have grown by "leaps and bounds."

Mr. Gilbert Rudiger, Asst. Supt. of Des Plaines Schools, was the featured speaker at our charter meeting. He has been a rockhound for about 25 years and is an excellent speaker. For this meeting he spoke on the Bad Lands of South Dakota and had many of his fine Fairburn Agate and petrified wood specimens on display.

A recent field trip was to Coal City, Illinois, in search of fossils. This particular area is well known for its fine Pennsylvanian Fern Fossils. There were over 40 members on this trip and some found exceptionally good specimens.

We are a very enthusiastic group . . . visitors are welcome.

Dorothy Taylor, Publicity
1664 Howard Ave.,
Des Plaines, Ill.

Wyoming

Riverton Mineral & Gem Society

The Riverton Mineral and Gem Society held its regular meeting in the REA Building in Riverton, Wyoming, December 8, 1958, with Charles Ridgeway presiding.

A 3-day field trip will follow the June 19, 20, and 21, 1959 Show and Convention; hence June 22, 23, and 24, 1959 will be the Field Trip Days.

Our first Field Trip Day will be to the Gas Hills Uranium fields June 22, 1959. We will have chartered buses for the entire day. Of course, there will be a nominal fee for this service. The trip to the Gas Hills and back is approximately 110 miles. There are several agate fields near our destination and plan on stopping at one or two so that agate collection will be enjoyed by all.

There will be other Field Trips but as of now, they are still undecided as to the location.

Dealers from all over have been invited to exhibit at our Show and Convention.

Plan now on attending the Show and Convention so you may join in the fun and excitement with other Rockhounds.

Arizona

Mineralogical Society of Arizona

The Mineralogical Society of Arizona opened the 1958-59 season with a meeting October 3rd, at which time reports were made by members of their summer activities.

The newly formed Micromounters Study Group, which began with a handful of enthusiastic crumb-pasters, is now a hard working band of serious students. Led by Harry Hill, the lively discussions range from mounting methods to mineral identification. Visitors are welcome to come to the meetings, which are held the fourth Monday of each month, at the Mineral Building of the State Fairgrounds, Phoenix.

Katherine M. Trapnell
Corresponding Secretary
1905 E. Roma
Phoenix, Arizona

California

Mineral Research Society of California

A new club has been formed this year in Southern California known as The Mineral Research Society of California. The object of this club is to collect, study, exhibit, exchange; further advance and make accessible the knowledge of minerals.

At the present time we are composing a bulletin on the borates of Southern California, and we are making up a collection of Calif. minerals to be donated to the University of Riverside at Riverside, Calif. We have also been asked by the Mineral Information Service at San Francisco to report any new minerals found in Southern California.

Some of our field trips this year include The Pacific Coast Borax Company Mine at Boron, California; Mule Canyon near Calico, Tick Canyon, Crestmore quarry near Riverside Calif. The Santa Monica Mts. and The Pegmatites of Pala Calif.

Most of our members are subscribers of R & M.

Charles Seward, Publicity
9223 Dorothy Ave.
South Gate, California

2nd ANNUAL MICROMOUNTING SYMPOSIUM

The Second Annual Micromounting Symposium, sponsored by the Baltimore Mineral Society, drew to a close late Sunday evening, September 21st, 1958. When the last of the sixty-six participants reluctantly headed homeward, they carried with them vivid memories of as varied and full a program as two days could possibly contain. Long before the doors of the Towson State Teachers College opened at 10:00 A.M. Saturday, Sept. 20th, cars from eight states and the District of Columbia had converged on the campus, and hearty greetings were being exchanged. They came from Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina, intent on repeating the stimulating experiences of last year's one-day symposium. They were not disappointed.

After a brief greeting and overview of the total program by the sponsoring society's president, Paul Yaffe, the participants compared experiences and mineral specimens, and browsed through the many choice specimens obtained from dealers for the occasion and by contributions of members from their own stocks. An adequate number of microscopes was available for examination of the specimens under consideration.

Lunch in the college cafeteria was followed by a workshop for which two laboratory rooms were provided. Everybody brought and demonstrated his favorite equipment for preparing and displaying his mounts. Bill Yost from Philadelphia was deluged with inquiries regarding one of the neatest rock-breakers we've seen. He makes them. Phil Cosminsky showed off his by now classic "lazy Susan" micromount viewer. Special lighting devices were explained and admired. And setting off the novelties as a background was the steady bustling sound of interested and purposeful people at work trimming specimens, mounting them, and passing them from one to the other for study and criticism.

A break in the activity was provided by the Baltimore Mineral Society's contribution to the Smithsonian, Paul Desautels, who described some "Classic Localities Producing Microminerals" and managed to make what might have been commonplace and tedious a lively and stimulating topic. Then back to the workshop, busy as before but with the added excitement of some Yankee trading at the swapping tables.

Time out for dinner was followed by a sparkling and informative talk and demonstration by "The Micromounter", Neal Yedlin. "Photographing Micromounts" appealed to the aesthetes who reveled in the color and form revealed in superb slides, and to the technicians who asked for and got complex techniques explained with clarity and good humor by Neal. Scarcely before the applause had died down, the lights were dimmed again, and, without benefit of fanfare, the first public showing of the new M-G-S slide production began. With modest pride we salute Brian McMullin, Horace Greene, and Charles Strobel, of the Baltimore Mineral Society, for as soundly conceived, handsomely executed, and logically presented a slide program as any we've seen. What made this achievement all the more commendable was the clarity it brought to the relatively difficult subject, "Crystallography". (This slide program, complete with printed narrative, is available on loan to groups for mailing costs only, from Harold Levey, 5023 Pimlico Road, Baltimore 15, Md.) The group then returned to the workshops to work, chat, and kibitz until 10:00 P.M.

Ten A.M. Sunday found the group in the assembly room enjoying the sage remarks and advice of veteran micro-collector Lou Perloff, as unpretentious and modest as he is expert and knowledgeful in the identification and handling of mineral specimens. His tips and hints were interspersed with warm experiences and gentle humor. An hour later, Mary Mrose of the U.S. Geological Survey recounted some of her inimitable sleuthing

experiences in tracking down and identifying elusive mineral specimens. It's difficult to explain how exciting and suspenseful Mary Mrose can make her mineral detecting talks. Someone suggested she received her training with Alfred Hitchcock.

Lunch was succeeded by a return to the workshops to continue with new minerals acquired by new purchases, swaps, and the generosity of some of the participants who had spare material. At the same time the award-winning micros submitted in competition were placed on display. Paul Seel's outstanding suite of diamond crystals captured first place with a point score of 99.6 based on the scoring system utilized by the judges: 40 points for quality, 35 for rarity, 15 for treatment, 10 for overall appearance. Judges were Neal Yedlin, Paul Desautels, Lou Perloff, and, in Harold Levey's absence, Paul Yaffe.

It was fitting, after submitting a winning exhibit of five superb diamond mounts, that Paul Seel present the closing talk illustrated by carefully drawn illustrations of the diamond anomalies he discussed in his "Observations on Diamond Crystals." This was a highly specialized topic and brought considerable appreciation from the group for the careful scholarship that went into its preparation. Workshops resumed for a while, the final stragglers leaving just before dark.

We were happy to greet honored guests, Dr. George Switzer, Curator of Mineralogy at the Smithsonian, and Mr. Thomson King, Director of the Maryland Academy of Sciences, a section of which is the Baltimore Mineral Society.

There can be little doubt that the two-day symposium fulfilled all expectations. No little credit for the success of the project rests with Art Goodwin, chairman of the committee. Other members of the committee were Harold Levey and Paul Yaffe, aided and abetted by hard-working sub-committees.

Nor can one fail to acknowledge the fine cooperation given by the administration of the State Teachers College at Towson, without which much would have been lacking.

See *you* next year?

Paul Yaffe
3204 Milford Ave.
Baltimore 7, Md.

FRANK DUNCAN FUND

In the Sept.-Oct. and Nov.-Dec. 1957 issues of R&M there appeared articles relating to Frank Duncan Fund. (Mr. Duncan is an aged mineral dealer who is up against it financially). We had hopes of raising $500 to be sent him as a nice Christmas present.

Only $185.10 were raised and this was sent him, Dec. 16th—not as a gift but as a loan (at his request).

Since then $71.00 more has been received, as follows:

Francis D. Emery, Old Orchard Beach, Me.	$5.00
Roy M. Fitts, Yarmouth, Me.	2.00
Fran Schiller, Luke, Md.	2.00
Mrs. John J. Tamburri, Morganville, N. J.	2.00
Robert Wilken, Red Hook, N. Y.	2.00
Anonymous (Ohio)	10.00
Mrs. Richard Fischer, Grand Junction, Colo.	10.00
Anthony Thurston, Morningdale, Mass.	2.00
Sheila Ann Gerhart, Reading, Pa.	2.00
Bob Hayley, Seymour, Texas	5.00
Mrs. Joe Sheriff, Shell Lake, Wisc.	1.00
Kenneth Parkinson, Hull, England	5.00
Juan Montal, Vilafranca del Pamades, Spain	3.00
Howard B. Graves, Jr., Lakeland, Fla.	2.00
R. Buhlis, Canon City, Colo.	1.00
Harold Trefethen, Waban, Mass.	10.00
Henry Sivik, Liverpool, N. Y.	2.00
Violet Miller, Brooklyn, N. Y.	5.00
Total	$71.00

We will hold the Fund open for a few weeks in the hope that more contributions may be received.

Readers, if they so desire, may send their contributions direct to Frank Duncan, P. O. Box 63, Terlingua, Texas.

Collector's Corner

For the special benefit of collectors who may be living in areas far removed from other collectors we have opened this feature. In this corner, a collector may have his name and address listed for the purpose that other collectors may write him in the hope that through correspondence, exchange of ideas and specimens, new friendships may be formed. Listings are free.

Gary L. Powers, 1126 E. 3rd Ave., Mesa, Ariz.

Mr. & Mrs. E. J. Bentsen Rt. 1, Box 508, Delhi, Calif

Mrs. John Branch, 3820 Ridge Ave., Tampa 3, Fla.

Mrs. Bertha Lawrence, 2311 Arcadia Dr., Miramar, Hollywood, Fla.

George & Velma Wyatt, 2002-57th, Tampa 5, Fla.

Maurice Lamb, Niota, Ill.

Paul L. Doggett, 950–65th St., Des Moines 16, Iowa

Malcolm Arnett, RFD 1, Box 253, Corydon, Ky.

Nelson Garner, RR 2, Sharpsburg, Ky.

Mrs. Valentine Lippold, R. 2, Dexter, Maine

Timothy K. Beck, 9 Arthur Rd., Andover, Mass.

Leslie R. Clift (11 yrs.), N. Main St., Raynham Center, Mass.

Larry Smith (12 yrs.), 2051 Clyde Park S.W., Grand Rapids, Mich.

David Klinshaw (11 yrs.), 153 Oakland Ave., Audubon 6, N.J.

Mr. & Mrs. John T. Swift, 955 Beatty St., Trenton 10, N.J.

William M. Lemmon, 2023 Grove St., Brooklyn 37, N.Y.

Mrs. Dorotea M. Rowe, RD 1, Nassau, N.Y.

Robert E. Bedford, 14 E. Main St., Johnstown, N.Y.

Ralph W. Caton, 51 Valley St., Concord, N.C.

Allen E. Marks, 12215 Ashbury Ave., Cleveland 6, Ohio.

David Belusko, 776 Grant St., Hazleton, Pa.

Richard C. Haefner, 217 Nevin St., Lancaster, Pa.

Mrs. Walter Dundorf, Jr., 445 Valley St., Marysville, Pa.

Thomas Petro (16 yrs.), 905 Meade St., Reading, Pa.

C. Nicholas Speltz, 1917 Foster, Memphis 14, Tenn.

Edward Helpenstell, 1429 Sandpiper Dr., Houston 36, Texas

T. Nichols, Rt. 4, Bowie, Texas

V. Sabin, 723 Steves, San Antonio 10, Texas

Ben Marshall, P.O. Box 926, Amelia, Va.

J. E. Rawles & Jimmie, 51 Green Oaks Road, Newport News, Va.

Bob Brock, 315 E. Commercial St., Appleton, Wisc.

Mineral collection donated to Saginaw, Michigan, Museum

The internationally known Lufkin Rule Company, the world's largest manufacturer of measuring equipment, joined the Tri-County Rocks and Minerals Society in the presentation of a mineral collection to the Saginaw Museum. Housed in the beautiful natural oak display cases, the collection was donated in memory of Robert M. Benjamin, a former Lufkin executive and director of the museum.

Presentation to Mr. Lawrence Bleasdale, museum president, was made on October 6, by Walter Miller, representing Lufkin, and Harry Sprague, president of the Tri-County Rocks and Minerals Society.

The display will be a permanent educational exhibit with the cultural and technical education of the young citizens of the area as the main motivation behind the project. A tape recording explaining each specimen is being made for this purpose.

Mr. Sprague, in presenting the collection to the museum, publicly extended the Society's thanks to the many rockhounds from all over the United States who have contributed to the exhibit. The collection embodies 65 specimens from Michigan and 95 from all over the world.

New geologic map of Yavapai Co., Arizona

Dr. J. D. Forrester, Dean of the College of Mines and Director of the Arizona Bureau of Mines of the University of Arizona, has announced the issue of a new geologic map of Yavapai County of Arizona. The map is one of the county series of maps being prepared by the Bureau and it gives the geologic setting in detail and also shows access roads and topography. It is felt that the map will be of major use and interest to many people interested in Arizona as a whole, as well as of direct value to residents of Yavapai County. It can be secured at a price of 75 cents a copy on addressing a request to the Arizona Bureau of Mines, College of Mines, University of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

The new map is similar to that previously issued of Maricopa County and of Graham and Greenlee Counties and it will be followed soon by a geologic chart of Mohave County. Copies of the Maricopa County map and of the one of Graham and Greenlee Counties still are available for purchase (75 cents a copy). The Bureau plans to have maps of all counties of the State available for distribution within the next 18 months. Anyone desiring further information is invited to write the Arizona Bureau of Mines office at the University of Arizona, in Tucson.

Spends a lot of time reading R&M!

Editor R&M:

Enclosed is $3.00 for my next year's subscription to R&M. I subscribe to at least 15 publications and I spend more time with R&M than all the others because of the diversity of the articles. It is hoped that the "World News Occurrences" will not be omitted for long because this is a section that helps one keep abreast of what's going on in the world—mineral wise.

This summer I covered most of Colorado, Kansas, and Iowa and came back with a carload of very nice specimens, mainly gold and silver ore from Colorado and geodes from Iowa. Also nice galena xls from Baxter Springs, Kans. Would have liked to examine the magnificent display in Boodle Lane's yard at Galena, Kansas, but unluckily he was on vacation.

My new book, "Rockhound's Book of Verse," has met with a fine reception from those who learned of it and ordered a copy. The many nice letters I have received from unknown purchasers has more than repaid the time and effort I spent in making this unique book available for rockhounds.

Fran Schiller
Luke, Md.

Thomaston Dam

(*Continued from page* 4)

Just as we were going to press, John Kuhhorn, Germantown, N.Y., dropped into our office to show us a very beautiful specimen from the Thomaston Dam locality. It was 5x5 inches in size and consisted of a flat mass of smoky quartz, one side encrusted by small groups of pale creamed colored stilbite xls and crested groups of platy whitish barite. Part of the barite fluoresced pink under long wave. The other side of this very fine specimen was encrusted by coarse drusy pale smoky quartz xls.

Mr. Kuhhorn did not personally collect the specimen, one of the truck drivers on the job gave it to him when he visited the locality Nov. 12, 1958.

VISITING ROCKHOUNDS WELCOME

The following subscribers would be delighted to have rockhounds call on them when passing through their cities. If any one else wants his name added to the list, just let us know.

John & Clara Roder, ½ mile south of junction Hwy. 7 north & 70 between Hot Springs & Little Rock, Ark.

Mr. & Mrs. E. J. Bentsen, Rt. 1, Box 508, Delhi, Calif.

Mac & Maggie McShan, 1 Mi. west on Hy. 66, Needles, Calif.

Porter, A. W., Pepperwood, Calif.

Randall Bohmer, 208 Warren St., New Britain, Conn.

Mrs. John Branch, 3820 Ridge Ave., Tampa 3, Fla.

Mrs. Bertha Lawrence, 2311 Arcadia Dr., Miramar, Hollywood, Fla.

Maurice Lamb, Niota, Ill.

Susan Tranter, 2 E. Walnut, Sharpsville, Ind.

John Burmeister, Preston, Iowa

Paul L. Doggett, 950–65th St., Des Moines 16, Iowa

Mr. & Mrs. Toivo Puranen, Ellis Rd., RFD 2, Box 67, Westminster, Mass.

Rev. M. Everett Corbett, Acworth, N.H.

James B. Moore, West St., Antrim, N.H. Phone 154

Mr. & Mrs. Rudolph Arp, 99 Mountainside Terr., Clifton, N.J.

Mr. & Mrs. John T. Swift, 955 Beatty St., Trenton 10, N.J.

Vernon Haskins, Curator, Durham Center Museum, East Durham, N.Y.

Ralph W. Caton, 51 Valley St., Concord, N.C.

Burl H. Van Dyke Rt. 1, Boone, N.C.

Waldo Blair, 1777 E. 31st St., Lorain, Ohio.

Mrs. Daisy Lynn, 204 E. Dalton, Hugo, Okla.

Mr. & Mrs. A. B. Carson, 12 Cateechee Ave., Greenville, S.C.

Rev. Theo. H. Judt, 520 N. Washington Ave. Scotland. S.D.

Edward Helpenstell, 1429 Sandpiper Dr., Houston 36, Texas

T. Nichols, Rt. 4, Bowie, Texas

V. Sabin, 723 Steves, San Antonio 10, Texas

Herman Kraege, Lima Center, Wisc.

Are wild plants radio-active?

Editor R&M:

I am wondering if any of our R&MA members have had any experience in radio-activity in wild plants which would cause them trouble or confusion when using the Geiger Counter in prospecting for uranium.

Recently, another member of the Association (Tony Hart of Midland, Ontario) and I made a trip to the uranium mines area at Bancroft, Ontario, in search of betafite crystals. We had permission from one of the directors of the mining company and detailed instructions where to search for the crystals. Due to lack of suitable equipment—also time—we never got any of those large and well-formed crystals, so will have to go back in the spring.

While walking around the edge of one of the uranium mines (at present not working), Tony's Geiger Counter began to "sing" loudly. We were mystified as all the rocks looked "barren" and we were quite a piece away from the ore zone. Accidentally touching some wild raspberry canes we found the source (apparently the only source) of the radio-activity—this was strong even right to the tips of the plants.

What I am wondering is this. Have any collectors, especially geologists, prospectors, had such an experience? If so, were the experiences close to or away from uranium deposits?

It is possible that this might be an interesting topic for readers of R&M and could be carried as a department for a few issues. In any case, I would be very pleased to hear from anyone having had this experience.

John W. Edwards
Nov. 1, 1958 Wyebridge, Ontario, Canada

PUBLICATIONS RECENTLY RECEIVED

Gettitng acquainted with minerals

George Letchworth English and David E. Jensen, McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., New York. 362 pages, 355 illustrations. $6.95, Revised Edition, 1958.

There are, all too few, readable, yet technically accurate books, that adequately cover the field of Mineralogy for the beginner, the mineral collector and the amateur lapidary. This is one that does. It is a new edition of the well known volume of the same title originally published under the authorship of George Letchworth English. This revised, expanded and virtually rewritten edition by David E. Jensen has been much improved and is a welcome addition to the literature of mineralogy. The long experience of both authors, as successive heads of the Geological Division of Ward's Natural Science Establishment, has given them an unusual acquaintance with the needs of all groups interested in minerals.

In addition to extensive revision, two entirely new sections have been added dealing with 1) the preparation, display and storage of minerals, and 2) gem cutting. The ten page section devoted to rocks in the original volume has been doubled in size. Even this enlarged chapter permits only a cursory treatment of the subject of rocks, but one sufficient to give the beginner a better understanding of the origin, emplacement and mode of occurrence of minerals. In this section the subject of granitization should have received some attention since it is now a generally accepted mode of origin for certain widespread rock types. The discussion of metamorphic rocks could also have been brought more in line with recent advances in this field.

The alphabetic arrangement of mineral descriptions, combined with two cross-reference lists, one according to major elements and another according to the Dana System will be found more convenient than the grouping followed in the old edition, especially by beginners. The descriptive section covers over 500 minerals which certainly includes all varieties that most mineral collectors or for that matter most professional mineralogists are likely to encounter.

An invaluable aid to the beginner is the excellent series of photographs which supplement the mineral descriptions and illustrate such characteristics as crystal form, habit and mode of aggregation. The book is profusely illustrated, many of the photographs having been prepared for this edition by the author's wife Katherine H. Jensen who is well known for her work in this field.

It is an admirable book both in content and format. The publishers are to be complimented on the attractive and striking appearance of the volume. It should do much to encourage and guide the ever increasing number for whom the fascinating mineral world has found an appeal as well as to awaken interest and bring new converts to the field. The treatment of the subject matter makes it an excellent elementary text and the breadth of coverage and descriptive detail insures its being a most useful reference work for collectors and others desiring an accurate but not excessively technical source book.

Ralph J. Holmes
Associate Professor of Geology
Columbia University
New York, New York

Fenton—The Fossil Book.

By Carroll Lane Fenton and Mildred Adams Fenton, Authors of The Rock Book, 482 pp., illustrated with many drawings, including 8 color plates. Published by Doubleday & Company, Inc., 575 Madison Ave., New York 22, N.Y.—price $12.50

This distinguished volume, The Fossil Book, achieves a new high in the field of natural-science writing. Dealing with material not covered elsewhere, it takes its place beside the authors' widely praised The Rock Book.

The Fossil Book is the story of life during the past two billion years, told by authors who are known for their research as well as their popular books on geology and related sciences. Here the Fentons tell what fossils are, where they are found, what they mean, and how they are related to plants, animals,

and other creatures living on the earth today.

The Fossil Book, therefore, is a guide for collectors—yet it is much more than that. In it the Fentons bring ancient remains and traces back to life. Corals grow in vanished seas; trilobites plow through mud; shells related to the nautilus are crunched by sea-going lizards. Fish with lungs begin to walk as they struggle to find water; dinosaurs wade where we now see deserts; elephants wander northward as ice sheets melt away. These adventures and the creatures that experience them appear in hundreds of drawings and photographs as well as in eight color plates that show both actual fossils and restorations of plants and animals as they looked when they were alive.

The authors' other books include Our Amazing Earth, Our Living World, Giants of Geology, and Our Changing Weather.

Moore—Introduction to Historical Geology (2nd Edition).

By Raymond C. Moore, Professor of Geology, University of Kansas, 656 pp., illustrated. Published by McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 330 W. 42nd St., New York 36, N.Y.—price $7.95.

In this completely revised edition of his well-known textbook, Professor Moore treats the history of the earth by applying principles of interpretation derived from observation of present-day geologic processes—such as weathering of rocks, transportation and deposition of sediment by various agencies in different environments, volcanism, and crustal deformation—to analysis of the geologic record.

Methods of determining relative and absolute placement of earth events in geologic time are explained, and the use of fossil remains of organisms for correlating rock formations of different age is demonstrated and illustrated, with emphasis also on evidence of evolution of life and adaptation of ancient animals and plants to differing environments.

Although attention is given primarily to North America, features important to earth history are included from other parts of the world.

NOTEWORTHY FEATURES

The revision incorporates much new data in all chapters and includes a considerably expanded treatment of the Precambrian part of earth history.

Contains the first presentation of subsurface occurrence of geologic systems in North America and a graphic summary of rock characters of the most important sequences of strata belonging to each geologic system.

Many new illustrations of extinct life groups.

New maps—geologic sections—illustrations of fossils—restorations of life forms—facilitate comprehension of features explained in the text.

Growth and Perfection of Crystals

In August, 1958, sixty-three authorities gathered in Cooperstown, New York, for the International Conference on Crystal Growth. The proceedings of this meeting, printed in record time by the photo-offset process, are already available in book form (8½x 11¼—609 pages) under the title "Growth and Perfection of Crystals." The volume has just made its appearance on the Wiley list.

"Growth and Perfection of Crystals" was edited by R. H. Doremus, B. W. Roberts, and David Turnbull, all of the General Electric Research Laboratory which sponsored the conference together with the Air Force Office of Scientific Research. The keynote of the meeting—crystal morphology—is carried over here and stock taken of our present understanding of this subject as well as its unsolved problems.

The editors have divided the voluminous material into six main sections each containing a series of related lectures. The introductory lecture by F. C. Frank is followed by: Growth of Whiskers; Properties of Whiskers and Crystal Imperfections; Growth of Crystals of the Solvent Phase; Growth of Crystals of the Solute Phase; and Crystallization of Polymers. The papers investigate organic, inorganic, and polymeric substances from the standpoint of crystal perfection, the formation and structure of whiskers, the presence of dislocations, and the mechanism of crystal growth from the melt, solution, and vapor. Further reports emphasize the important differences and similarities between polymer and ordinary crystallization.

"Growth and Perfection of Crystals" is priced at $12.50. Published by John Wiley & Sons Inc., 440 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, New York.

DEALERS CATALOGS

Geode Industries—A 144-page, illustrated catalog 8½x11 with a beautiful yellow cover and titled *Geode Industries* 1958-59 *Catalog* was recently issued by Geode Industries, 106 W. Main St., New London, Iowa. The catalog covers minerals (especially geodes many of which are beautifully illustrated), gems (rough and polished), lapidary equipment & supplies, ultra-violet lamps, books, etc., etc. Catalog is in 3 sections.

Mountings and Findings, Section 1 (38 pp); Geodes and Mineral Specimens, Section 2 (24 pp); Gem Materials, Equipment, Supplies. Section 3 (70 pp). Each Section costs 25¢ or 50¢ for complete catalog which includes 12 extra pages.

Burminco—An 8½x10¾ illustrated 20-page catalog (No. 12) devoted chiefly to minerals which are arranged alphabetically and come from world-wide localities has been received from Burminco, 128 S. Encinitas, Monrovia, Calif. This is Burminco's new catalog that features mineral specimens and supplies for collectors, schools, students, and science. It is priced at 20¢ per copy.

Minerals Unlimited—An interesting price list has been issued by Minerals Unlimited, 1724 University Ave., Berkeley 3, Calif. It is a 12-page, 8½x11¼ publication listing alphabetically all minerals carried in stock. The catalog will be sent free on request.

Scott Williams—This enterprising Arizona dealer is constantly enlarging his stock of choice minerals because each month or so a new price list is issued. The one issued last November contains 6 pages, 8½x11, and full of intriguing items for the mineral collector.

Prices range from 50¢ to $50 per specimen. Is your name on his mailing list? If not, send it to Scott Williams, 2346 S. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, Ariz.

Parkinson—An 8 page, 5½x8½ inch "Catalogue of Minerals 1959" has been received from R.F.D. Parkinson, Cranmore, Shepton Mallet, Somerset, England. It features chiefly minerals, from England.

GEM SILLIMANITE FROM OCONEE COUNTY, S.C.

By BOB DANIEL, Natural Gems, P.O. Box 64, Toccoa, Ga.

Am sending you, under separate cover, one brown sillimanite crystal, and one cut gem of the same material. This is a new find in Oconee County, S.C., and, as far as we are able to learn, is a very rare size for sillimanite, as well as to have the cat's eye quality of this material. As you will notice, the eye is as strong as in chrysoberyl and extends all the way to the edge of the stone with no loss of quality. I have cut a sphere of this material, and find the eye to go all the way around the stone. Every stone I have cut from it has had an excellent eye. We have found crystals from 1 to 30 grams in weight, and no doubt will find larger ones.

In the cutting of this material, I have found that the flatter the top of the cab, the broader the eye, and, if the cab is cut in a high dome top, the eye will be very sharp. As this stone has a very strong cleavage, I have been grinding it on a smooth 220 grit wheel to prevent any shock. Otherwise, it will sand and polish very much the same as quartz, even though it is 7½ in hardness.

Considering the superb quality of the eye, the outstanding size of the individual crystals, and the fact that I have never heard of any such material on the market, we have leased the property, and mining operations will be under way very soon. Also the fact that this material is 7½ in hardness should have a bearing on the gem quality.

We have decided to market this material at $1.00 per gram, in the gem grade, all sizes mixed, though of course to dealers in wholesale lots, the price will be reduced in proportion. No trading.

As we think we have a very important gem find, I am making color slides of the operation as we go, and will give you more on this location as time goes on.

Editor's note—A loose, 1½-inch long, dark grayish-brown sillimanite crystal, and a ¾-inch round dark brown sillimanite cabochon were received from Mr. Daniel. The cabochon is nicely polished and shows distinctly the cat's eye chatoyancy—both very nice. The crystal is the largest we ever saw of sillimanite. Our congratulations are extended to Mr. Daniel for leasing the property and we hope the venture will be a most profitable one.

WITH OUR ADVERTISERS

Conducted by James N. Bourne
c/o Rocks and Minerals. Box 29
Peekskill, N. Y.

Advertisers are cordially invited to submit News Items to this Department

We like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. & Mrs. Rogers of R&B Art-Craft Co., 11019 So. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles 44, Calif., upon the opening of their new branch store located at 3276 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego, Calif. Their manager at the new store will be Mrs. Pansy ("Pinky") Kraus of San Diego.

For shopping convenience, purchases may be made at either store with the same courteous treatment. The R&B Art-Craft Co. has long been one of R&M advertisers and even more than that, have been a credit to the hobbiest, collector, gem cutter and to the mineral field in general with many satisfied customers over the years. The new store in San Diego will enable the Rogers to still further serve their many friends on a still larger scale. Best wishes, Mr. & Mrs. Rogers, from R&M and its many readers for your continued success.

Earl Smith of Geode Industries, 411 W. Main St., New London, Iowa has sent to us their new 1958-59 Catalog. This catalog may be purchased for 50¢ from Geode Industries. Mr. Smith relates the following:

"Our catalog is completely new, loaded with photographs and is divided into three sections, namely: 1. Mountings and Findings, 2. Geodes and Mineral Specimens, 3. Gem Materials, Equipment and Supplies.

"Any section can be purchased for 25¢ each or 50¢ for the entire catalog as mentioned above. Every effort has been put into this catalog, our best yet, for the easy reading comfort of our many customers. You can refer to our new catalog with complete reliability as to purchases and your satisfaction is guaranteed."

Note: We compliment Mr. Smith on his efforts to provide those interested with a really fine catalog, complete as to detail and including photographs throughout that further enchance the attractiveness of the catalog. Get your copy today for reference later.

The newly revised edition of "Getting Acquainted with Minerals" by David E. Jensen of Ward's Natural Science Establishment, Inc., P. O. Box 1712, Rochester 3, NY, can be purchased for $6.95. This is one of the most popular mineral books ever published for the beginner and well worth the money.

"Our special crystal collection will appeal to any collector. It contains six attractive crystals, namely: Alaskan epidote from Prince of Wales Island, Alaska; green garnet from Mexico; chrysoberyl from Madagascar; smoky quartz from Colorado; golden topaz from Brazil; and spinel from Ceylon. These crystals come neatly boxed and priced at $4.85.

"Also we offer our geology catalog containing a listing of mineral, rock, and fossil collections; color slides of minerals, fossils and geologic formations and also a section on equipment for field and laboratory work. A copy of this catalog may be had for $1.00 postpaid."

Note: For further information on above, take a look at Ward's ad on our back cover with this issue.

From Walker's Minerals, 799 Lexington Ave., near 62nd St., New York 21, N.Y., we would like to make mention of the following:

"For those living in and around New York and those from other areas paying New York City a visit, feel free to drop in and look over our specimens for the collector from world-wide localities. We are also distributors of mineralights and Ultra Violet Equipment, geological hammers, B&I lapidary, and detectron geiger counters. We offer diamond crystals from South Africa at $2.50, $3.50, $5.00, $7.50, $10.00, $15.00, depending upon size and form, plus cabochon grade ruby rough at 50¢ per carat, but not gemmy. Also you may be interested in topaz crystals, ¾" in size and of honey colcr at $1.00 and 1" size at $2.00. Remember our address: Walker's Minerals, 799 Lexington Ave., near 62nd St., New York 21, N.Y."

From George A. Bruce, Pres., International Import Co., 604 Peachtree St., N.E., Atlanta 8, Ga., we are in receipt of their latest catalog and we here at R&M never cease to be amazed at the manner in which many of our advertisers go all out to compile these fine catalogs for the convenience of their customers.

This one from Mr. Bruce, listing 21 pages of rare gems, cabochons, rough cutting material, carved gems, precious and semi-precious stones, with prices on all material for your ordering convenience.

A word from Mr. Bruce who needs no introduction reads:

"We are importers of precious and semi-precious stones with excellent connections in the major gem markets of the world. We make every attempt to handle stones of quality and not the mediocre material so widely offered; above all, we assure you that your satisfaction is our primary aim. We want your patronage and assert every effort to be worthy of it.

"Our brochure "The Rarer Gems", treating with almost fifty of the rare gems in which we specialize, can be had for 25¢ per copy.

"We also feature a special line in inexpensive cabochons in standard sizes and selected materials. These have a high polish and are accurately cut. They are suitable for the collector and for those wishing gems for mounting purposes. Generally the following are always in stock; aventurine, bloodstone, jasper, quartz crystal, rhodonite, rose quartz, blue tiger-eye, golden tiger-eye and red tiger-eye. Any purchase assures you of receiving our next catalog.

"We look forward to having our "Outer Space Jewelry" made available to customers sometime around April 1959 and we'll keep you posted as to their availability for purchase at a later date. We are of the opinion that you'll be quite interested in this material, as it is quite rare, but will not be expensive. If you will advise us by card, we will forward our price list when it is completed."

Note: Int. Import Co. of Atlanta, Ga., advertises regularly in R&M and some really fine material has been offered as per their ads each issue. A follow-up order will be promptly handled to your satisfaction. In reference again to their new catalog Mr. Bruce relates "An excellent bargain are the five assorted colors of Burmese jadeites—black, green, mauve, red and yellow—in oval 18x13 mm. for $10.00 per set plus tax."

To familiarize R&M readers with Missouri Minerals, P.O. Box 1558, Denver 1, Colo., advertising with us this issue we print the following item received from M. Jordan Zimmerman, who with partner William Banks conduct the business.

"We began in May 1953, in Rolla, Mo., and were wholesalers until August of this year. At that time we moved to Denver, Colo., and opened a retail store, in addition to our wholesale business. I am a graduate mining-geology engineer, and my partner, William Banks, is a graduate geologist. We are publishing new retail and wholesale price lists, which will be ready in December.

"We carry prospectors' supplies, including a complete line of gold pans, and "Black Light" ultra-violet equipment. Our stock of crystal specimens is quite extensive, and we have many tons of poundage material for resale. We are now entering the field of jewelry findings, baroques, and some cutting material. So far, the findings have been very popular with the retail trade, and we'll probably increase our line.

One of our most popular collections is that of "Rocks & Minerals of the United States", which has 25 specimens, each in an individual removable 2x3' cardboard tray, boxed in a box with a four-color cover. Some of the minerals include hematite, bauxite, dolomite, galena, sphalerite, tripoli, fluorite, pyrite, limonite, marble, calcite, fire clay, etc."

Note: Glad to have you with us, gentlemen, and the best of luck.

Irl Everett of Everett Lapidary Shop, 2944 North 65th, Lincoln 5, Nebr., sends us a little item which he wishes passed on to our readers and here it is:

"This summer I purchased two very large rock and mineral collections. One has well over 1000 specimens and the other has 850 to 900. So with my own collection I can now boast the very largest in Lincoln, Nebr., outside of the museums.

"I have many duplicates in these collections and I want to sell them out. So to be fair and to give the lowest possible price I am going to sell them like this; two (2) specimens for $1.50 plus postage and I am going to guarantee that the folks will be satisfied. If they are not, it will be money back. All specimens will be marked as to type and location."

Note: Look up their classified ads this issue for further details on above.

Grant C. Thompson, Proprietor of the Ottawa Valley Gem Shop, 1310 Bank St., Ottawa, Ontario, Canada wishes the following passed on to readers of R&M:

"About 4 weeks ago we received some 10 pounds of garnet crystals in the mail from a chap in Ontario. We immediately spotted these as collectors' items and proceded to arrange for further purchase. We have accomplished the following:

(1) Obtained complete Canadian and world distributorship for all garnets from this property, (2) received 200 pounds of garnets, (3) classified these for size and quality.

"The 200 pounds is hardly adequate, but there is almost an unlimited supply of these and the 200 pounds is fair representation of those available."

Note: Ottawa Valley Gem Shop has (2) ads in this issue and mention of above material is included, so get your order in early.

John M. Wise, Gemologist and Lapidary, 108 W. Fayette St., Baltimore 1, Md., relates to us:

"I have been appointed sole distributor of a new synthetic material; synthetic lapis lazuli spinel. This material is a patented process and is being manufactured in West Germany under a new method. I am enclosing for your own pleasure a sample slab of the rough. It should be cut and polished just like you would synthetic spinel."

Note: Sample received of lapis lazuli spinel from Mr. Wise has color and appearance of the natural material, (H.8), while the natural stone is only (H.5). Very nice and thank you Mr. Wise.

How true, Margaret, how true!

Editor R&M:

Thank you very much for the wonderful article in the Nov.-Dec. 1958 R&M—"America, My Land," by Margaret Henry. Only those who spent their vacation in Asheville, N.C., and attended those wonderful field trips know how "true" was every word that Margaret had written.

Mrs. John J. Tamburri
Box 74
Nov. 20, 1958 Morganville, N.J.

"TAKE A FIELD TRIP"

Don't let winter stop your field trips. Take a trip to the Mohawk Valley, New York State, and collect "Herkimer Diamonds" in the comfort of your own home. We have packaged soil directly from the crystal-bearing pockets containing these beautiful double terminated, water clear quartz crystals. All material is directly removed from the crystal-bearing pockets, and is not high-graded. You will probably find more crystals in one of our bags than you could collect yourself digging all day. **One Pound Sealed Plastic Bag** $3.75

Limonite Concretions: N.S.W. Round hollow "nature's rattle." each ..... $ 1.50
Native Gold: Ariz. Bright yellow on quartz. 3x1½" 5.50
Carnotite: Colo. Very rich throughout sandstone. 2½x2" 2.25
Beryl: Brazil. Pale terminated gem quality crystal. 1" 3.30
Rose Quartz: Maine. Rare. Group terminated crystals. ½" 4.00
Titaniferous Magnetite: N.Y. Rich titanium ore. 1½ lbs. 2.00
Topaz: N.H. Terminated pale yellow gemmy. 1"x½" 5.50
Allanite: Va. Complete crystal, brown coating. 2x2" 1.10
Uraninite, Gummite: N.H. Very rich specimen. 2x1½" 2.00
Beryl: N.Y. Green crystal section. 4x3"; 2 lbs. 2.00
Cobaltite: Ont. Silvery heavy massive ore. 3x2" 1.25
Bastnasite: Colo. Six reddish Xls, radioactive. (small) 1.00
Tourmaline: N.Y. Black terminated crystal. 2½x1" 1.50
Triphylite: N.H. Massive, blue-grey color. 3x3" 1.25
Magnetite: N.Y. Crystals on massive magnetite. 3x2" 1.50
Hardystonite: N.J. Associated with franklinite. 3x2" 1.25
Pitchblende: Utah. Black in sandstone, radioactive. 3x1½" 2.00
Polycrase: N.Y. Black in feldspar with alteration. 1½x1" 1.10
Strontianite: N.Y. Massive, snow-white color. 3½x3" 1.40
Native Platinum: Alaska. Stream worn, silvery nugget 7.00
Sapphire: Kashmir, India. Complete blue crystals. 6 for 1.10
Sapphire: North Carolina. Purple Xls, fluorescent. 1 oz. 1.00
Topaz: Africa. Superb colorless term. gem crystal. ¾" 7.00
Aquamarine: Brazil. One excellent "pencil pointed" terminated gem quality crystal of sea green color. Approx. 2" long 12.00
Native Gold: Alaska. Bright yellow, stream-worn nuggets. each 2.00
Native Gold: Alaska. A large nugget weighing over ¼ ounce 16.00

SELECTED GEM ROUGH

MIXED CUTTING MATERIALS: Our own choice. Fifteen Pounds 6.95
SWEETWATER AGATE: Wyoming. Moss dendrites throughout. Half Pound 2.00
MONTANA AGATE: Yellowstone River. Spot & band patterns. One Pound 2.00
JASPER: Massachusetts. Ocher brown & yellow stones. Ten Pounds 4.95
AGATIZED WOOD: Colorado. Good quality petrified wood. Ten Pounds 4.95
OBSIDIAN: Utah. Mahogany brown, snowflake, black colors. Ten Pounds 4.95
APACHE TEARS: Arizona. Translucent brown, facet or cab. Two pounds 2.00
LILAC AMETHYST: Brazil. Beautiful lavender, facet grade. One Ounce 2.00
BERYL: Brazil. Various varieties, some faceting grade. Eight Ounces 4.00
MORGANITE: Brazil. Apricot color, cabochons and facet. Four Ounces 4.50
CITRINE: Brazil. Clear golden yellow, faceting grade. One Ounce 2.00
AQUAMARINE: Brazil. Green, blue stones, facet & cab. Four Ounces 5.50
CHRYSOBERYL: Brazil. Yellow-green, facet & cab. grade. One Ounce 3.00
BLOODSTONE: India. Dark green, spotted with red. Two Pounds 5.95
TIGER EYE: Africa. Chatoyant golden yellow chunks. One Pound 1.50
OLIVE GREEN JADE: Wyoming. Deep color. Slabs: One Square Inch 1.00

All Above Postage Paid—No Extra Charges—Satisfaction Guaranteed

MINERALS & GEMS

Box 8072 **Albany, New York**